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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

In light of President Obama's push for comprehensive immigration reform, do you support granting status to long-term foreign workers in the CNMI?

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INSIDE

BUSINESS



Slumping personal computer maker Dell is bowing out of the stock market.

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FOCUS



Experts find the remains of England's King Richard III.

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Josh Groban enjoys singing sad songs about a breakup in his album.

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32 pct. hike in number of inmates

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The number of inmates at the \$20.9-million prison complex in Susupe has increased by 32 percent, Corrections Commissioner Ray Mafnas told members of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations during yesterday morning's public hearing on the governor's nomination of Sgt. James C. Deleon Guerrero as Department of Public Safety commissioner.

» Deleon Guerrero: I will restore trust in DPS
» Senate likely to confirm nominee next session



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Corrections Commissioner Ray Mafnas, left, shakes hands with Sgt. James C. Deleon Guerrero, right, after testifying in favor of the governor's nomination of Deleon Guerrero as Department of Public Safety commissioner during a public hearing held by the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations yesterday morning. The panel is poised to recommend the full Senate's confirmation of the nominee.

Young violinist makes waves in HK contest

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Zhen Yu Su of Do Re Mi Music School, right, and school president Ao Zhang yesterday pose with the awards the 16-year-old violinist won in the 3rd Hong Kong International Violin Competition held in Sha Tin Town Hall from Jan. 28 to 31.

A young violinist put the CNMI on the map after winning at a recent international competition, gaining for himself an invitation to another prestigious contest next year.

Zhen Yu Su of Do Re Mi Music School successfully captured two awards at the 3rd Hong Kong International Violin Competition held in Sha Tin Town Hall from Jan. 28 to 31.

Established in 2011 by the Asia Musicians Association, the annual event showcases the talent and competence of young violinists from Hong Kong, mainland China, United States, Taiwan, Singapore, and Malaysia.

The 16-year-old Su, who was making his debut in an international competition, bested dozens of other aspiring violin

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Deleon Guerrero said his main thrust is to restore the public's trust and confidence in DPS and boost employee morale. DPS has remained without a permanent commissioner since early 2012.

Government officials, meanwhile, see the 32-percent increase in the number of inmates as good and bad. Either there's an increase in incarceration rate, which is good, or a plain increase in the number

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8.0 Solomon quake prompts tsunami watch

» Dozens of Solomon homes damaged by 1.5-meter waves

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A powerful earthquake that struck near the Solomon Islands yesterday morning prompted the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center to issue a tsunami watch for several islands and



SOURCES: ESRI; USGS AP

territories, including the CNMI and Guam. The tsunami watch was later cancelled.

The 8.0 magnitude earthquake occurred at 11:30am near Lata on Santa Cruz in Temotu province, the easternmost province of the Solomons, about a 3-hour flight from the

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Local

House vote on impeachment set for Monday

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan) said late yesterday afternoon that a session will be called for Monday, wherein the full House will vote on a resolution impeaching Gov. Benigno R. Fitial for 18 allegations of corruption, felony, and neglect of duty.

Monday's session will give all the 20 House members ample

time to review the Special Investigating Committee on Impeachment's report and recommendation that they will pre-file today.

The special panel adopted all 18 articles of impeachment last week, but has yet to adopt the final report and recommendation to the full House to adopt each of the articles.

Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan) said yesterday that the final committee report will be distributed to all members once

it is pre-filed with the House clerk today.

"The committee is expected to finalize the report Thursday, sign it, adopt it, and pre-file with the clerk. All members will have the opportunity to read the report in time for the House session," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

House minority bloc leader George Camacho (R-Saipan) separately said yesterday that the minority bloc will also be preparing a "position response

to H.R. 18-2."

He said this is not necessarily a report. The four minority bloc members are aligned with the governor or members of the governor's Republican Party.

Two from the minority bloc—Reps. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan) and Teresita Santos (R-Rota)—were earlier appointed to serve on the special impeachment committee but they later withdrew their membership.

Meanwhile, the special com-

mittee's original working draft report is 51 pages long. But since Tuesday, the committee has been reviewing the working draft page by page and in the process, removing and adding parts as they go along.

At least 14 "yes" votes are needed in the 20-member House to move the impeachment process to the nine-member Senate wherein at least six affirmative votes are needed to convict the governor.

This will only be the second time in CNMI history that the House will vote on a resolution impeaching the governor. The first one was in 2012, but the move was easily defeated by the governor's allies in the House leadership.

Voters removed most of the governor's allies in the House in the 2012 elections, giving the second impeachment resolution a much better chance to move to the Senate for trial.

Senate panel on impeachment may tap current, retired judges

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Senate Special Committee on Impeachment chair Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said yesterday that the panel, whose members will be appointed today, may seek assistance from current and retired judges to help facilitate the proceedings if the resolution impeaching Gov. Benigno R. Fitial moves to the Senate for trial.

As of yesterday, there was no telling yet whether the gov-

ernor will seek private legal counsel or use the Office of the Attorney General to represent him during the trial.

If and when the House succeeds in getting at least 14 "yes" votes to adopt the resolution impeaching Fitial for 18 allegations of corruption, felony, and neglect of duty, the process moves to the Senate for trial.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said he has yet to discuss with the governor this matter about legal representation.

Torres, the current Senate vice president, said that the formulation of the special committee rules will be done with the assistance of the Senate legal counsel and possibly, a private counsel.

"We will set the rules and once that is adopted by the whole Senate, we may give the governor two weeks to prepare for the actual trial," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

He added that the special committee will have three to five members, including him as chairman.

The full House will hold a session on Monday, wherein they will vote on the impeachment resolution.

Removal of mandatory health insurance for foreign workers gets Chamber's nod

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Shortly before a deadline to act on a pending bill or it automatically becomes law, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial received the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's position supporting the removal of the mandatory health insurance for alien workers. The Chamber is also requesting an amendment to the CNMI's labor law in light of federal takeover of immigration.

At the same time, Chamber president Alex Sablan said during yesterday's monthly membership meeting at Pacific Islands Club that a letter is being prepared addressed to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), asking for a reprieve in the 50-cent minimum wage increase in September 2013, until the economy rebounds.

The CNMI's minimum wage is now at \$5.55 an hour.

The governor, meanwhile, has yet to act on House Bill 17-147 or the measure removing the mandatory health insurance coverage for alien workers, as of yesterday afternoon, press secretary Angel Demapan confirmed.

Fitial sought the Chamber's input on the bill, introduced by former representative Diego Benavente, when he was still a member of the 17th Legislature.

In his Feb. 1 letter to the governor, Sablan not only expressed the Chamber's support of the bill but also sought changes to the CNMI's employment law.

"Consequently, although the Chamber agrees and un-

derstands employers are not responsible for health care benefits under the new federal labor and immigration authority in the CNMI, the SCC believes the real issue needing address is a rewrite of the Commonwealth Employment Act of 2007," Sablan said in his one-page letter.

HB 17-147 says that, with the minimum wage increases in the CNMI, certain benefits provided to nonresident workers should no longer be required.

Benefits previously provided to alien workers include medical insurance coverage, free housing, food, transportation, etc. because of the low minimum wage.

It also says the removal of the mandated benefits "will create fairness for all employees within the Commonwealth, nonresident and resident workers alike."

Sablan said the Chamber believes that HB 17-147's intent is desirable "and in fact, much of what the bill intends to amend within Title 3 of the Commonwealth Code in CNMI Labor regulations has simultaneously occurred as a result of the passage and implementation of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 with respect to foreign national employees, and the laws and regulations that govern their employment in the CNMI."

The CNRA placed CNMI immigration under federal control.

Sablan said since the CNRA's passage, specifically the portions addressing employment of foreign nationals through

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services visas and permits, "there is a need to clearly define jurisdictional matters."

"While USCIS has stated publicly they believe the issue of medical benefits to employees, both foreign national and U.S. hired alike, is a matter for local CNMI state concern, let alone a decision between employers and their employees, the SCC realizes the issue at hand with laws and regulations on the books that are no longer needed. And, for that reason this law attempts to remedy we support the move to amend," Sablan said.

'Punitive regulation'

Meanwhile, in a separate message to Chamber members, Sablan said they have yet to receive response from USCIS on their request to remove the "unintended but rather punitive regulation" referring to the requirement that nonresidents cease working if their CW or Commonwealth-only worker permit is not yet renewed on the day of the expiration of their original permit.

Sablan said the Chamber also recently asked the delegate for assistance on the matter.

The Chamber president said the effort "has also caught the support of Allen Stayman, chief legislative staff to Sen. Ron Wyden, chairman of the [U.S.] Senate Energy Committee."

"We look forward to a positive result sooner than later," the Chamber president added.

Ex-convict hunted for new criminal case

Police are hunting down an ex-convict who is facing an arrest warrant for a new criminal case.

Department of Public Safety acting spokesman Sgt. Thomas Blas said yesterday that detectives have not been able to locate Milton B. Camacho after

Blas said that, on Tuesday Superior Court Associate Judge

David A. Wiseman issued an arrest warrant for the 32-year-old Camacho for the charge of theft.

Saipan Tribune learned that Camacho allegedly stole an iPad that belonged to a nephew.

Blas said they are seeking the assistance of the community in

locating Camacho.

Blas advised the public not to approach the suspect, but instead report his whereabouts by calling the DPS emergency line 911, the Criminal Investigation Bureau at 664-9022, or the NMI Crime Stoppers at 234-7272.

Camacho was arrested several times in the past for various crimes such as domestic violence, stealing and forging checks, and armed robbery. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



Camacho

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Defense rests; closing arguments today in Weindl trial

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The defense rested yesterday afternoon after calling in three more character witnesses, including retired associate judge Herbert D. Soll, for former school principal Thomas Weindl, who is on trial in federal court for allegedly accessing child porn websites using a Public School System-issued laptop.

The prosecution and defense counsels are expected to present their closing arguments today, Thursday.

Tami L. Loehrs, an Internet

technology expert from Arizona, completed yesterday her testimony for Weindl.

During cross-examination by assistant U.S. attorney Garth R. Backe, Loehrs admitted that she never tested or used E-blast reports.

E-blaster is a computer and Internet monitoring software program. E-blaster reports allegedly alerted an FBI special agent to Weindl's online activity.

Loehrs also stated she is aware that the U.S. government presented evidence that Weindl admitted to Federal Bureau of Investigation agents that he viewed websites that contained

child pornography.

The expert witness denied knowledge of Weindl allegedly admitting to FBI agents that

he used Google searches on 11-year-old Korean girls.

Loehrs also stated that she is aware prior to testifying in court that Weindl has an 11-year-old stepdaughter and that he is accused of searching websites for 11-year-old girls, mostly Korean, on June 15 and 18, 2012.

The witness, however, maintained her opinion that the prosecution's evidence—screenshots of websites that

contained child pornography—is not reliable.

When asked if she has a personal animosity with the FBI, Loehrs replied, "No sir, I don't."

Backe then showed an image of Loehrs' Facebook account and made her read a message that she posted, "FBI, the most dangerous threat facing our nation."

When showed images taken from the websites that Weindl allegedly visited or attempted to view, Loehrs reiterated that she can't authenticate or replicate them so she does not consider them evidence.

"That is not evidence in my

field. It's a picture," she said.

When asked if it is not evidence that Weindl admitted to FBI agents that he viewed child porn materials of mostly 11-year-old Korean girls and that he has an 11-year-old stepdaughter, Loehrs replied that her opinion remains the same—that they are still not evidence.

When asked if it's only coincidence, the witness said, "It could be."

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom, Backe was still cross-examining Loehrs.

Loehrs on Tuesday testified among other things, that it is not fair and accurate to say that the images presented by the prosecution in court were the same ones that Weindl viewed or visited in several websites,

as the government alleged. She pointed out that Internet images change every second or are constantly changing.

After Loehrs completed her testimony yesterday afternoon, defense counsel David Banes called three more character witnesses, including retired judge Soll, who all testified about Weindl's good character.

Weindl's daughter, Capt. Amanda Weindl of the U.S. Air Force, also testified on Tuesday by video telephonic conference about her father's good character.

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Pacifica Road Aid

In partnership with Tokio Marine Pacific Insurance Limited, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. recently launched Pacifica Road Aid, a roadside service assistance program, designed to enhance the value of its auto insurance policies.

Pacifica Road Aid will be offered to customers who purchase personal auto insurance with comprehensive and collision coverage or what is most often referred to as "full coverage" auto insurance at no additional cost.

"Everyone is looking for a deal," said general manager Shirley Sablan. "Pacifica Road Aid is a program designed, not only to enhance reliability on our auto policies, but also to help save our customers money on towing and other related and covered services."

The roadside service assistance program offers five types of services: key lock out, jump start, flat tire change, out of gas, and towing services. Descriptions of such services are as follows:

■ **Key lock out service:** the attempt of unlocking or the opening of a covered vehicle should the insured accidentally leave his or her key in the vehicle.

■ **Jump start service:** the attempt of starting the insured's covered vehicle with a jumper cable if the battery has been drained of its capacity to start the vehicle.

■ **Flat tire change:** the changing of a flat tire with the insured's covered vehicle's spare tire and equipment.

■ **Out of gas service:** a type of service whereby a serviceman will drive the insured to the

nearest gas station for the sole purpose of purchasing gasoline.

■ **Towing service:** a lift-towing service available to both accident and non-accident related cases.

Pacifica Insurance has contracted Joeten Motors Company to manage and provide services offered under the program.

"We wanted a company with a long history of auto repair and related services to facilitate Pacifica Road Aid; Joeten Motors came at the very top of our list," said Sablan. "We expect nothing less than the finest for our roadside service program. Joeten Motors is serious about providing excellent services using the latest equipment. Late last year, they invested thousands on a

brand new tow truck that will be used for this program."

Customers who qualify for Pacifica Road Aid will be given one per each type of roadside service listed under the program with conditions. The cost of such services will be fully covered by Pacifica Insurance provided that customers complete a full one-year policy term and maintain a good standing account.

For more information on Pacifica Road Aid, call Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. at 234-6267/7722/7310 or visit their office located at Joeten Center in Susupe. You may also visit www.pacificains.com/pacificaroadaid or send an inquiry via email to piui@pacificains.com. Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. is a general agent for Tokio Marine Pacific Insurance Limited. (PR)



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

KHS issues report cards today

Parents and legal guardians of Kagman High School students are advised that KHS will be handing out the 2nd quarter report card during homeroom period today, Feb. 7, 2013. Students will bring the report cards home with them. Please ask your child for his or her report card. Today will be a regular class schedule and there will be no early dismissal. Dismissal is at 3pm. *(PR)*

MHS issues report cards today

To all parents and legal guardians of the Mighty Dolphins of Marianas High School, we will be distributing the 2nd

Quarter Report Card today, Feb. 7, 2013, from 4pm to 6pm in the MHS Gym. Students will be released at 1pm on this day to allow the school time to prepare for the event. If you have any questions, please call the Main Office at 237-3206/5. *(PR)*

Free business workshops

The CNMI Small Business Development Center presents two free workshops: ■ “Intro to Financial Statements” on Feb. 8, from 9am to 11am, at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office in Garapan. ■ “Domestic Exporting: Freight Forwarding by Air and Sea” featuring

Jerry Crawford on Feb. 19, from 9am to 11am at the SCC office in Garapan. Deadline for pre-registration is 12pm, one business day before the workshop. Online registration is available at pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com. Walk-ins are allowed, depending on space availability. For more information, contact CNMI SBDC at (670) 664-3018, Caller Box 10007 Saipan MP 96950 or email www.pacificsbdc.com. *(SBDC)*

Valentine’s Walk on Feb. 9

The Marianas Health Annual Valentine’s Walk will be held on Feb. 9, 2013. Free registration begins at 6am.

The walk will start from the Carolinian Utt (next to Hafadai Beach Hotel) down the Beach Road Pathway. Turn-around for the 5K course is at the Japanese Tank, while the turnaround for the 10K course is at the Oleai Beach. Special T-shirt is available while the supplies last. For more information contact Bea Quitugua at 285-1694, Hiroko Tajima at 287-8780, or Hiroko Tenorio at 483-0614. *(PR)*

MHS Class of ’83 meeting

The MHS Class of 1983 would like to invite everyone to join then for their general meeting on Friday, Feb. 8, 2013, at the Minatchom Atdao Pa-

vilion, Susupe, Civic Center Beach, at 7pm. If you have any question, call Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665. *(PR)*

Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Feb. 7-8, from 8am to 7pm. The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. *(PR)*

SOLOMON

From Page 1

capital, Honiara. Several strong aftershocks followed the 8.0 temblor.

It generated a tsunami of up to 1.5 meters (about 5 feet) that damaged dozens of homes in the Solomon Islands, but authorities canceled warnings for tsunamis on more distant coasts. There were no initial reports of deaths or injuries.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said a tsunami of about a meter (3 feet) was measured in Lata wharf, in the Solomon Islands. Smaller waves were recorded in Vanuatu and New Caledonia.

Saipan Tribune learned that after hearing the tsunami watch, some businesses located along coastal areas on Saipan closed and their employees were sent home starting at noon.

“I don’t understand why our boss sent us home when it’s only a tsunami watch,” a store employee said.

A tsunami watch means the public must be prepared for additional information or cancellation. It is only during a tsunami warning when action is required and that people must evacuate to higher grounds.

‘Watch for waves’

Richard Dapo, a school principal on an island near Santa Cruz, said he lives inland but has been fielding calls from families on the coast whose homes have been damaged by the waves.

“I try to tell the people living on the coastline, ‘Move inland, find a higher place. Make sure to keep away from the sea. Watch out for waves,’” he said.

He said he’s heard the waves have swamped some smaller islands, although he’s not aware of any deaths

or serious injuries at this point. He said it’s difficult to contact people because cellphone coverage is patchy in the region.

In Honiara, the warnings had prompted residents to flee for higher ground.

“People are still standing on the hills outside of Honiara just looking out over the water, trying to observe if there is a wave coming in,” Herming said. So far, he had received no reports that a wave had been spotted in Honiara.

Atenia Tahu, who works for the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corp. in Honiara, said most people were remaining calm.

“People around the coast and in the capital are ringing in and trying to get information from us and the National Disaster Office and are slowly moving up to higher ground,” Tahu said. “But panic? No, no, no, people are not panicking.”

An official at the disaster management office in Vanuatu said there were no reports of damage or injuries there.

Tsunami watch

The CNMI Emergency Management Office issued a bulletin at 11:30am yesterday, informing the public that a tsunami watch was in effect for the CNMI.

The tsunami watch was also hoisted in Guam, Marshall Islands, Howland and Baker, Pohnpei, Tokelau, Samoa, Kermadec Islands, New Zealand, American Samoa, Tonga, Australia, Niue, Cook Islands, Indonesia, Wake Island, Chuuk, Jarvis Island, Palmyra Island, Yap, Johnson Island, Minami Torishima, and Belau.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center also issued tsunami warnings for Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Nuaru, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, New Caledonia, Kosrae, Fiji, Kiribati, and

Wallis and Futuna.

PTWC cancelled both tsunami watch and warning later in the afternoon.

Ring of fire

More than 50 people were killed and thousands lost their homes in April 2007 when a magnitude 8.1 quake hit the western Solomon Islands, sending waves crashing into coastal villages.

The Solomons comprise more than 200 islands with a population of about 552,000 people. They lie on the “Ring of Fire”—an arc of earthquake and volcanic zones that stretches around the Pacific Rim and where about 90 percent of the world’s quakes occur.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake struck 81 kilometers (50 miles) west of Lata, at a depth of 5.8 kilometers (3.6 miles). The region has a population of around 30,000 people. *(With AP)*

VIOLINIST

From Page 1

players after winning the Excellence Award in the Professional Division and the Performance Award in the Junior Division.

In the Professional Division, Su impressed the judges with his rendition of Handel’s *Sonata No. 4 in D Major*, Pablo Sarasate’s *Carmen Fantasy*, Lalo’s *Concerto in D Minor*, and the Chinese folksong *Sunshine Over Tashkurgan*. In the Junior Division, Su played Paganini’s *Caprice No. 5* and also *Sunshine Over Tashkurgan*.

In an interview yesterday, Su said he did not expect to win given the tough

competition.

“I feel really good about winning. I feel like it’s a big accomplishment because bringing home two awards is a big task. There was a lot of pressure but I just wanted to make my family and friends proud of what I will accomplish when I went there,” Su, who traveled to Hong Kong by himself, told *Saipan Tribune*.

Being surrounded by other remarkable violinists from all over the world, Su said, “I tried to keep my composure and not be nervous because being nervous before a competition is bad for you. I just tried to do my best.”

Su also made several new friends and was awestruck by Melody Chang, another winner in the Professional Di-

vision for Adults, whom he described as having “amazing tone quality.”

“I was speechless when she was done. Watching her perform was really exciting and it’s really rare that you get to see a talent that great,” he said.

Su’s teacher and trainer, Do Re Mi Music School president Ao Zhang, disclosed that Su actually did not have enough time to prepare for the competition because organizers were unable to send the invitation on time since they did not know where Saipan was.

“This competition is very difficult. It requires a lot of talent and very high technique. I contacted people from Hong Kong and they were all very impressed with him. He’s really special.

Now he has a good future and can be recognized internationally. I’m very proud of him,” said Zhang, who was also awarded an Honor-Teacher certificate for his work with Su.

Su’s mom, Hong Chao Chen, had to email the organizers before they emailed her back on Dec. 25, giving her son only a little over a month to practice.

“I think it’s a very rare experience and a very good opportunity for him to meet professionals and kids his age so he could see the level of his skills, learn from his fellow competitors and encourage him to study hard and pursue success,” said Chen.

Su impressed the judges so much that he was invited to join next year’s

Schoenfield International String Competition in Germany. He also revealed plans to participate in the 2014 Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition in Austin, Texas.

Although he is eager to join more contests, Su wants to focus this year on college applications so he could receive advanced music education.

Both Su and his mother expressed appreciation to Zhang and another Do Re Mi Music School teacher, Yi Wang, for teaching the young musician in the last decade.

“It’s not just the techniques that they teach him but even personal character. Our family really appreciates the time and effort they put on him,” added Chen.

INMATES

From Page 1

of crimes and civil offenses in the community.

The prison complex can house some 500 inmates.

Without giving specific raw figures for safety and security reasons, Mafnas said he could only say that the number is fast approaching the 50 percent maximum occupancy.

Based on estimates, the number of inmates could now be more than 200.

When the state-of-the-art prison opened in 2008, there were only 131 inmates at the time, and this figure included civil detainees, the criminally charged, and DUI offenders.

Mafnas, a former DPS commissioner, was among the 10 individuals who testified in favor of Deleon Guerrero’s nomination.

Just like the other nine, Mafnas spoke of Deleon Guerrero’s extensive background in the operations of DPS, his dedication to serve the community, and his resolve to lead the department forward.

Some of those who testified in favor of Deleon Guerrero’s nomination also cited the 32-percent increase in the number of inmates.

Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan), for example, said it’s “long overdue” that a capable person lead DPS given the months that the post has been vacant and filled only by those in an acting capacity.

“If inmates increased by 32 percent, that means there’s a problem. We need Sgt. James to be there [DPS],” said the representative.

EAGI Committee chair Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), a retired police captain, said the increase in the number of inmates could also mean that the Judiciary and other law enforcement agencies are

doing a great job in ensuring those who break the law are put behind bars.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial’s failure to nominate a DPS commissioner within a 90-day period is one of the 18 allegations in a resolution impeaching him for neglect of duty, corruption, and felony.

‘Senate confirmation’

Dozens of uniformed police officers, firefighters, those in civilian dress, and other community members attended the panel’s hearing on the DPS commissioner nomination.

All 10 who testified before the Senate EAGI Committee urged the panel to recommend Deleon Guerrero’s confirmation.

Cruz said his committee also received written testimony, all in favor of Deleon Guerrero’s nomination.

“Nobody testified either orally or in writing, against the nomination,” he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The EAGI Committee is poised to recommend Deleon Guerrero’s confirmation, and the full Senate may confirm the nomination during its next session, to be held on Tinian next week.

Esther Fleming, the governor’s special assistant for administration, presented the nominee to the Senate committee.

Fleming said Deleon Guerrero is “fully qualified” for the position, and he made DPS “his career.”

She said Deleon Guerrero has been with DPS for 24 years, since graduating from Marianas High School in 1989.

Fleming cited Deleon Guerrero’s contributions and accomplishments at DPS in different posts, including the modernization of the department’s evidence facility.

Deleon Guerrero, in his nine-minute remarks before the Senate panel, said he will restore public trust and confidence in DPS, help boost em-

ployee morale, implement fundamental changes to better the department, invest more in science and technology, and further work with other agencies.

He said while “public dismay” with DPS is at an “all-time high,” this could be addressed within and also with the help of the community.

“I’m here to provide competent and capable leadership,” he told senators.

Deleon Guerrero also said “there could only be one commissioner” for DPS.

He added that his resolve is to “uphold the law” and “do the right thing” all the time.

Since last year, the governor has been designating brothers Ambrosio and Aniceto Ogumoro as acting DPS commissioner. Some DPS personnel said Aniceto Ogumoro was at the Senate gallery in the beginning of the hearing but left, while Ambrosio Ogumoro did not attend the hearing.

FOR SPRING 2013, NMI SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE BARES:

Nearly 500 students apply for financial awards

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Nearly 500 college students have applied for financial assistance this spring semester, based on the records of the NMI Scholarship Office as of Jan. 31.

Of that number, 149 are sure scholars and eligible to receive grants for both the Honors scholarship program and Educational Assistance Program, or EAP, according to administrator Rose Pangelinan yesterday.

Pangelinan told *Saipan Tribune* that the 149 approved applications as of January were composed of 128 applicants for EAP and 21 ongoing scholars under the Honors scholarship program.

Records show that for the EAP program, the CNMI Scholarship Office received for this spring 2013 semester 122 new students; 58 returning students; 99 ongoing off-island students with active application who submitted supporting documents; and 155 ongoing

students at Northern Marianas College with active application and supporting documents.

A total of 43 ongoing students will receive grants under the Honors Scholarship program for this new semester, of which 21 have been approved while 22 students have not submitted their supporting documents as of Jan. 31, 2013.

Starting fall semester 2013, the Honors scholarship program will no longer be made available as mandated by a sunset provision in the law that created it.

According to Pangelinan, out of the 122 new students who applied for EAP, 49 are currently being reviewed while 73 students have submitted supporting documents.

Out of the 58 "returning" students for EAP, 36 applications are under review, while 22 have no supporting documents. Of the 99 ongoing off-island applicants, Pangelinan disclosed that 69 applications are being reviewed, 30 submitted half of supporting documents, and 200

applications have not submitted any documents at all.

For the 155 ongoing on-island applicants for EAP, 133 are under review; 22 submitted half of the supporting documents; and 112 have not submitted any documents.

Pangelinan said this spring 2013, scholars will continue to receive an across-the-board financial assistance under EAP of \$938.34 for those enrolled at Northern Marianas College, while \$1,050 per semester for off-island recipients. Honors scholarship awards are kept at maximum of \$15,000 per year.

"Awards are always contingent upon the availability of funds. Right now it seems like the spring 2013 term will remain the same as that of fall 2012," Pangelinan said.



SENDOFF CEREMONY

Some of the 16 CNMI soldiers scheduled to be deployed to Afghanistan wait for their turn to be recognized on stage, during a sendoff ceremony for them at Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan Friday morning. The CNMI soldiers are among the more than 600 members of the Guam National Guard bound for Camp Shelby in Mississippi and then to Afghanistan in the coming weeks. They are largest group of reserve component troops to be mobilized and deployed from the Marianas.

HAIDE V. EUGENIO

Staff salary study, desk audit underway at NMC

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas College employees are hoping for a positive change in their employment at the institution following reports that their wages and benefits are being revisited by management and that there is a plan to endorse salary adjustments to the Board of Regents.

NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., disclosed that a staff salary study has been completed at the college and is being incorporated into a full NMC-wide salary comparison.

It was also learned that a confirmatory desk audit will be undertaken this month to ensure that certain positions are properly classified before any salary

adjustments are proposed.

"The president has instructed the completion of the peer salary study by Feb. 17. Salaries of NMC faculty and administrators will be compared against peers. Additionally, a proposal for a faculty salary schedule and a review of support staff positions and their salaries has also been tasked," according to Hart's report to the Board of Regents.

The target completion of the project is late February.

Saipan Tribune learned that among the factors that make it difficult for the college to hire needed personnel is the low compensation offered to candidates. According to some faculty, the "salary freeze" was a result of a policy on promo-

tions that was adopted at NMC in 1989 but was never implemented.

Despite attempts of previous NMC administrations to adjust employees' wages, however, the college's budget prevented the institution from going forward.

On Tuesday, NMC human resource officer Christopher Timmons provided the board a document showing the current salary pattern offered at the college. He described the current wage schedule of employees as non-competitive and contributes to the difficulty of bringing in needed personnel such as instructors.

Meantime, Hart reported to the board that in January, HRO filled three instructor positions

for the School of Education and Humanities; and two other non-teaching positions for personnel specialist and a payroll accountant. Three of these candidates, she said, have already started.

Based on the college's website, NMC is still recruiting for several positions. These include bookstore assistant, department chair for Language and Humanities, director for Admissions and Records, director for Financial Services/CFO, coordinator for College Access Challenge Grant, instructors for nursing and psychology, as well as program coordinator for the Office of Admissions and Records. The college is also looking for adjunct instructors.

WICHE rate not available yet to NMI students this spring 2013 semester

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI students studying abroad won't be able to avail of the discounted rates offered by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education following disclosure that the reduced tuition rates will not take effect this spring 2013 semester.

Northern Marianas College president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., told the Board of Regents that the discounted rate for CNMI students will be implemented in April.

The CNMI is the first college in the Pacific Islands and U.S. territories that was accepted by WICHE, a regional, nonprofit organization that works to improve access to higher education and ensure student access through the states' student exchange programs and regional initiatives. Membership in the organization will allow CNMI students to be eligible for reduced tuition rates in 15 member states.

Hart disclosed that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who committed to paying for the \$125,000 annual membership to the organization, already issued a check to WICHE some two weeks ago.

"The governor did submit a check to WICHE but since the check was not received until some two weeks ago, students for spring 2013 semester would not be able to avail of the WICHE rate," said Hart.

Once the new rates are applied to CNMI students beginning April, the cost-saving per

student in undergraduate studies alone is projected at around \$8,000 per year. Graduate students will see a higher saving of about \$11,000 or more.

To avail of WICHE benefits, member institutions require proof of residency from students. CNMI citizens can physically attend courses of their choice or they could take programs online.

Hart disclosed that she had met both the NMI Scholarship Office and the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance boards of directors and discussed the benefits of the new membership. She reported that both agencies may look into changing their own policies in the distribution of funds as a result of the WICHE membership, which they expect to generate savings for the government.

Hart assured the NMC board that in weighing the cost-benefits of membership with the organization, WICHE traditionally provides all its members a comprehensive report on each member's performance and participation.

To reduce the annual membership dues, Hart said that she is encouraging other islands to join WICHE so membership costs can be split among these members.

WICHE member states include Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.


Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, February 21st, 2013 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan (Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)


- A. Preliminary Matters**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of January 17, 2013 minutes
 5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)
- B. Public Hearings**
 1. Conditional Use Application #2011-5741: Mr. Byung Ill Sin of Sinho Development is proposing to manufacture and package herbal and dietary products for marketing on-island and other Asian countries. This use is classified as Manufacturing and Processing and its operation will be situated on lot 001 B 42 in San Roque, along Chalan Pale Arnold. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.
- C. Communications/ Reports**
- D. Old Business.**
 1. Update on the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013
- E. New Business**
 1. Office operations report for Calendar Year 2012
- F. Executive (Closed) Session**
- G. Miscellaneous:** Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel: (670) 234-9661 • Fax: (670) 234-9662
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp



INVITATION FOR BIDS
This ad is paid by NMHC with HUD Funds.

NMHC IFB 2013-001

Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Saipan

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Saipan.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Friday, February 8, 2013, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Central Office on **Friday, February 15, 2013, at 10:30 a.m.**, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivisions and inspect several housing units owned by NMHC that will be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. Inquiries regarding this solicitation must be addressed in writing to the NMHC Corporate Director at P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 9:00 a.m., Monday, February 18, 2013.

Sealed bids must be marked **NMHC-IFB 2013-001**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, no later than **10:00 a.m.**, local time **Friday, March 1, 2013**. Bids received after the date and time will not be accepted. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m.**, local time, **Friday, March 1, 2013**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **Friday, March 1, 2013**, and must be received at Procurement and Supply no later than **Friday, March 8, 2013**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **10:30 a.m.**, local time, **Friday, March 8, 2013**. However, if no notice of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m.**, local time on **Friday, March 1, 2013**.

All labor on this project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate of \$5.55 per hour which took effect on October 1, 2012 as established by Federal law including subsequent increases of \$.50 per hour as announced by the U.S. Department of Labor and/or the CNMI Department of Labor, whichever is higher.

NMHC hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that, in any contracts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small, minority businesses and women's business enterprises will be afforded equal opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, disabilities or national origin.

This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires the successful bidder to the "maximum extent feasible", take affirmative steps to provide training, contracting and employment opportunities and help ensure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents in Saipan.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC.

NMHC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined to be in its best interest. All bids received shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

'Office of Transit Authority finally taking off'

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority is finally moving forward after obtaining a \$1.1 million grant from the Federal Transit Authority.

The funds will be used for operating and maintenance expenses that include the recruitment of five key staff coordina-

tors. The five new COTA staff, together with Special Assistant for Public Transportation Thomas J. Camacho, make up the core team of the CNMI's first Office of Transit Authority personnel.

The staff and the Commonwealth Public Transportation

advisory board were briefed on their duties and responsibilities in an orientation last week. The Commonwealth Public Transportation advisory board also had its first meeting last week to adopt the fiscal year 2013 non-urbanized formula grant in the amount of \$892,170. The 2013

operating budget will finance additional transportation plans, renovation of an existing warehouse for vehicle maintenance, repair and storage; at least 30 low-cost ADA compliant bus stops for the Saipan Fixed-Flex Route system, staff training on environmental management, and administrative costs.

CPTAB is composed of 11 individuals that include the representatives of mayors of each senatorial district, police commissioner, Finance secretary, Public Works secretary, the Public School System, Emergency Management Office, and a representative from the business community.

Camacho informed members of COTA's proposed two-year lease for an office space on the second floor of the NMI Retirement Fund building that will house the One-Call/One-Click Transportation Information &

Resource Service Center, design and construction of COTA's new Administration Building, which will house the permanent home of the One-Call/One-Click Center, design and development of the Saipan Fixed-Flex Route & Para-Transit System, requisition of four mini buses for the Saipan Fixed-Flex Route System, and design and development of COTA's website (www.cota.gov.mp/).

Members were also updated on the proposed Ferry Boat Feasibility Study being undertaken by DPW's Federal Highway Program. If the study suggests the need for an interisland ferry boat system, COTA will take the lead in applying for discretionary and formula funds from FTA for the requisition or construction of ferry boats and terminal facilities.

"I'm very pleased and relieved now that I have the right

team of personnel and a functioning board to assist me in carrying out the local and federal mandates of a public transit authority as well as making sound decisions affecting the organization," said Camacho.

Former representative Clyde Norita first introduced the public transit bill in the 14th Legislature, followed by former representative, now senator, Ray Yumul. Norita's version passed both houses, but then governor Juan N. Babauta vetoed it while Yumul's version never made it out of the House committee.

"However, with Yumul's persistency and commitment, he introduced HB 17-43 in the 17th Legislature, it passed both houses with amendments and was signed into law by the Gov. Benigno R. Fitial in May 2011, known today as P.L. 17-43," said Camacho. (*Office of the Governor*)



BRIEFING WITH LAWMAKERS

Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, left, addresses lawmakers during a meeting called by ad-hoc Senate and House committees dealing with NMI Retirement Fund issues. Looking on are assistant attorney general Teresita Sablan, Fund counsel Rebecca Wrightson, and acting Fund administrator Lilian Pangelinan. One of the lawmakers present, Sen. Victor Hocog (R-Rota), expressed frustration that the meeting won't help solve anything on the issue of Fund member contribution withdrawal because of court proceedings.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Saipan council backs Kaipat's nomination

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council is asking the local delegation to support and confirm the nomination of Diego Litulumar Kaipat, saying that having a council member from the Northern Islands would open the door to other qualified residents to run for a seat in that office in the future.

Council chair Ramon B. Camacho said that he and councilwoman Antonia M. Tudela adopted Resolution No. 12SMC-03 endorsing Kaipat's nomination during their organizational session after their swearing in on Capital Hill on Jan. 14.

The resolution states that Kaipat worked as a corpsman in Pagan, a flight nurse at Dr. Torres Hospital, a hemodialysis/emergency nurse at the Commonwealth Health Center, CHC Emergency Department clinical coordinator, and CHC nursing supervisor prior to his retirement.

Kaipat was nominated by Northern Islands Mayor Tobias Aldan earlier last month. Reports have surfaced, however, that Saipan Mayor Donald Flores is questioning Kaipat's nomination since he was not consulted by Aldan.

Camacho said he personally knows Kaipat, having worked with him whenever he would bring patients to the hospital when he was still in the police force. He described Kaipat as "very knowledgeable" and "a good citizen."

According to Camacho, the law requires the council to have three members. In November's mid-term elections, however, only Camacho and Tudela ran for the council member positions.

"There's a nominee from the Northern Islands and I support that nominee. I can see in the future that Northern Islands residents will start running for municipal council position. We're opening the door because since the council was established, there's never ever

a Northern Islands resident who became a council member," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Camacho noted that having a council member representing the Northern Islands and occupying the third vacant seat would "fulfill the title of the municipal council."

"It's always from Saipan," he added, referring to elected council members.

Camacho added that having a Northern Islander as a council member is timely given the efforts to develop the vast potentials of the CNMI's northern frontier.

"All of us is going to benefit in this thing because we're all looking at the future development of the Northern Islands," he said. "We can start here at the council and all three of us can work together to start exploring and see what we can come up with."

Camacho said they gave a copy of the resolution to the Legislature and the local delegation, which has yet to schedule a hearing for Kaipat's confirmation.

NMI first to launch EHR program in Pacific

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The local Medicaid Office announced yesterday that the Commonwealth is the first area in the Pacific to launch the electronic health record incentive program, which provides important motivation and financial support for eligible providers.

The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program was established pursuant to the 2009 Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, a federal law that authorized Medicare and Medicaid electronic health record incentive payments.

In a statement yesterday, the Medicaid Office stated that, except for Hawaii, the program is not yet available in

other insular areas.

The EHR Incentive Program enables the hospital and eligible providers to apply for incentive funds for the implementation and use of electronic health records.

The CNMI Medicaid Program worked with other Health Information Technology stakeholders in the Commonwealth to develop the CNMI State Medicaid HIT Plan that was approved by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as one of the prerequisites to launching the EHR Incentive Program.

The plan addresses EHRs and also Health Information Exchange and public health HIT interfaces.

"The overall HIT vision for

[the] CNMI is to improve patient care and safety for the people of CNMI through widespread adoption and meaningful use of Health Information Technology," stated Medicaid administrator Helen Sablan.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta said last week that the Commonwealth Health Center's electronic health record project would soon entitle the corporation to the benefits promised under the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program.

Saipan Tribune learned that CHCC can get \$2 million in federal incentives in the first year, \$1.5 million in the second, \$1 million in the third year, and \$500,000 in the fourth, if it successfully implement the project.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-13-015

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF FUEL FOR POWER GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of fuel for CUC Power Generation facilities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The purchase of approximately 18,000,000 – 20,000,000 US gallons annually of No. 2 Diesel Fuel Oil (also known as gasoil or Low Sulfur ADO for, American Samoa and CNMI, as defined by US EPA) will be for the period starting May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2017.

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **February 19, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-13-015, Supply & Delivery of Fuel for Power Generation", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **March 08, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The Proposal Price shall remain the same throughout the term of the contract except for the variation in the MOPS and government taxes, duties and fees. Note that the CNMI Government at present, exempts the fuel supplier from paying liquid fuel tax (currently, \$0.15/gallon).

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **February 22, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Wallon Young, CUC Deputy Director for Power via email wallon59@yahoo.com and Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

IN REJECTING SUSPECT'S MOTION TO MODIFY \$75K CASH BAIL

Judge: Poker money not worth a person's life

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho rejected yesterday a bid to modify the bail of a suspect in the stabbing of a poker arcade guard in Dandan, saying, "The money at the poker machine is not worth the life of a person!"

Camacho issued yesterday his order rejecting the motion of Edward Aldan Deleon Guerrero to lower his \$75,000 cash bail.

Camacho expressed concern over the randomness and brutality of the attack that happened on midnight Sunday at Skyway Poker.

"The court is concerned that no condition or combination of

conditions can guard against such random propensity for brutal violence on members of our community," the judge said.

Camacho said he is not convinced that 18-year-old Deleon Guerrero will be able to control his propensity for violence and comply with the court's orders and conditions of pre-trial release.

At yesterday's hearing, Deleon Guerrero, through assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, proposed that his parents be named his third party custodians, in addition to a property bond in lieu of the \$75,000 cash bail.

In rejecting the motion, Camacho said he understands the parents' desire to assist their son and their hope to have him re-

leased into their custody.

Camacho noted, however, that both of the suspect's father and mother have serious physical disabilities that may limit their ability to supervise him.

In addition, Camacho said, the proposed property is not suitable because it is currently being used as collateral in a loan.

Lastly, the judge noted, the proposed location where the suspect was to live is in close proximity to the alleged crime scene, Skyway Café Poker.

It is alleged that Deleon Guerrero went to Skyway Café Poker on Airport Road on Sunday. Using a knife, he allegedly repeatedly stabbed the establishment's security guard, Fernando Martin.

Martin, 48, was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center where he was treated for lacerations on his neck, ear, and right thumb.

The suspect fled the scene but later turned himself in to police. Deleon Guerrero allegedly confessed to a police officer that it was his intention to rob Skyway Café Poker.

Camacho noted that the teenager has no criminal history yet the allegations showed he is capable of committing heinous and violent acts in a cold and calculated manner.

Camacho pointed out that Deleon Guerrero lived with his parents when he allegedly committed these violent acts. "The court is not convinced that the supervision and parental authority of the proposed third party custodians will be enough to control the defendant," he said.

Camacho said he weighs many factors when considering bail.

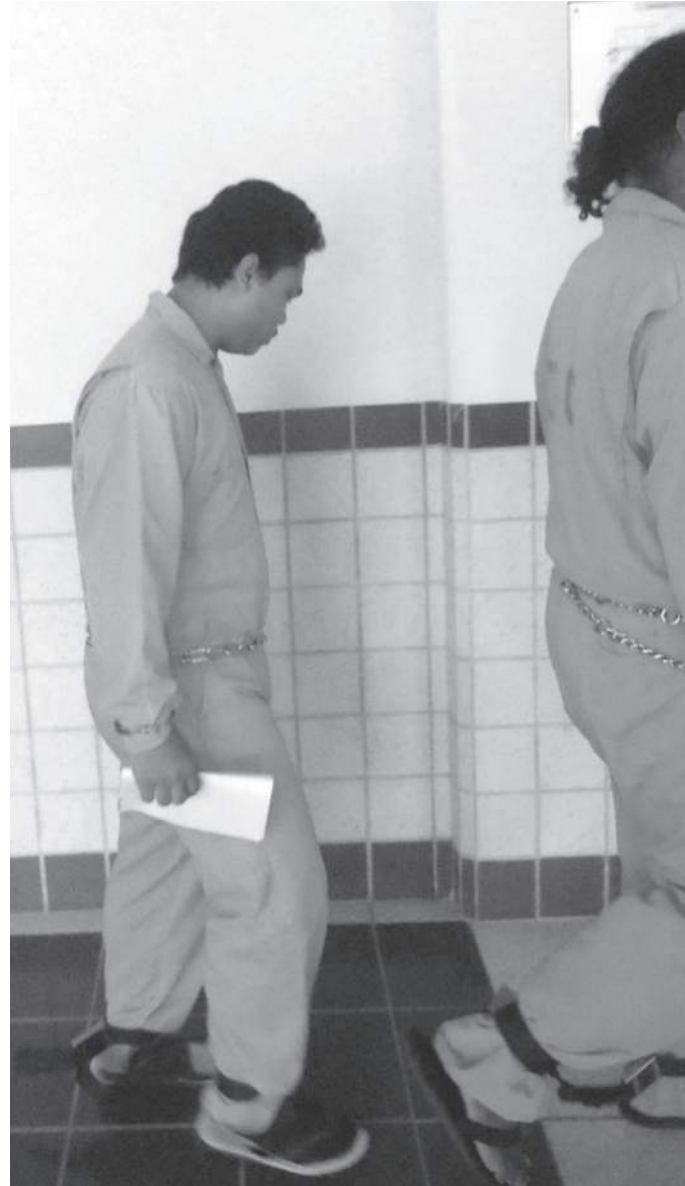
In Deleon Guerrero's case,

the judge said the court's discretion is focused on the nature and circumstances of the charged offenses and the weight of the evidence.

Here, Camacho said, the defendant allegedly attacked the victim, a person unknown to him, using a deadly weapon, a knife.

Camacho said the defendant allegedly repeatedly stabbed the victim in the neck, "a vulnerable and vital area that can cause death or paralysis."

He said the defendant allegedly committed the attack as part of his intention to commit the crime of robbery.



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Edward Deleon Guerrero, 18, emerges from the courtroom after his hearing on Monday in Superior Court on charges that he stabbed a security guard of Skyway Poker during a foiled robbery.

Kilili reintroduces territorial fellowship proposal

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) re-introduced yesterday legislation creating the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Territorial Fellowship program, H.R. 512. The fellowship program is intended to encourage students from the U.S. insular areas to become engaged in civic affairs by giving them experience working in public service.

"Dr. Rita Hocog Inos exemplified dedication to public service," Sablan said. "So I think it would be a tribute to her memory to create a program that cultivates that same dedication in other young leaders in the Northern Mariana Islands, as well as [in] Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands."

Sablan's bill authorizes the Department of the Interior to use funds, which Congress already appropriates, to run the fellowship program. College students and recent graduates would be given on-the-job training and mentoring to develop professional skills useful in public service employment. They would be exposed to the day-to-day challenges confronting those working in government. And there would be opportunities for the Inos Fellows to build networks at both the local and federal government level to further their careers.

"The Northern Marianas and all the U.S. insular areas need

to keep building our capacity for self-government," Sablan said. "Giving our best and brightest a chance to see how to manage in a government setting is one way to bring the next generation of leaders into the public sector, and also get them started on the right foot with a serious and rigorous program."

The fellowships would be for a summer or academic semester. Fellows would be placed in local or federal government situations and provided a small stipend.

The program's namesake, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos, began her own career, as a teacher, right out of high school. She soon realized, however, that further education was needed for her to grow to her full potential. She eventually earned her doctorate and became head of the Public School System in the Northern Mariana Islands, linking the values of education and public service.

"In her life, Dr. Inos was an inspiration to many," Sablan said. "I hope that this fellowship program created in her name will continue to inspire many more in the years to come." (PR)



Sablan

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

KRISNAIYN D. REYES) FCD-DI CIVIL
Petitioner,) ACTION
) NO. 12-0478
vs.)
) SUMMONS FOR
MARLON V. REYES) PUBLICATION
Respondent,)

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 501932, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 30th day of January, 2013.

/s/ Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC.,) CIVIL ACTION
Plaintiff,) NO. 09-0458
)
-v-) THIRD
DONALD C. CAMACHO,) AMENDED
Defendant.) NOTICE
) OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on May 4, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot 001 C 60 (formerly part of Lot 001 C 56. Which was part of Lot 001 C 26, which was part of original Lot 001 C 05, T.D. 697), situated in San Roque Village, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 C 12, the original of which was recorded 27 August 1999 as Document No. 99-2037 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, March 8, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 29th day of January, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

JOE HILL, Esq.,
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. Box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 234-6806/7743
Fax: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

SOLEDAD S. BUENSUCESO-JUACHON,) FCD DI CIVIL
Petitioner,) ACTION
) NO. 12-0408
versus)
) SUMMONS
ANTHONY I. JUACHON,)
Respondent.)

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma'Hustisia, Iimwal Aweweewee, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 5th day of August, 2012.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,) Civil Action
Plaintiff,) No. 11-0094
)
vs.) NOTICE OF
) AUCTION
JAMES D. CABRERA,) and
Defendant.) JUDICIAL
) SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 5th day of July, 2012, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **22nd day of February, 2013 at 10 a.m.**, at the Marianas Public Land Trust conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot/Tract No. 011 G 243, containing an area of 865 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official DLS Check No. 011 G 05, the original of which was recorded on December 16, 1993 as Document No. 93-4413 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - to reject any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
- Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 14th day of January, 2013.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer



P.O. Box 500369 Saipan MP 96950 • Tel # (670) 234-6601 Fax # (670) 234-8007

Position : (4) WAITRESS

Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent with minimum of 2 years work experience preferably in hotel operations. Good customer service, communications and interpersonal skills are required. Ability to work a variable schedule on occasion, including early mornings, evenings and/ or weekends. Must have fluency in English and Chinese language.

Applications can be obtained from Kanoa Resort's security office located on the Hotel's Backside. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than February 11, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort, is located next to Saipan World Resort Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

NMC Annual Health Fair on Feb. 23

To increase awareness about healthy lifestyle habits and practices, the Northern Marianas College's Nursing Club is inviting all community members to the 4th Annual Health Fair on Feb. 23, 2013, Saturday, from 8am to 3pm at the Multi-Purpose Center.

The Health Fair is supported with the assistance of the College Access Challenge Grant, Let's Move CNMI, Area Health Education Center, Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, and other NMC and community volunteers.

Health Fair activities will run from 8am until 3pm, but will also feature a 5K Walk starting at 6:30am. Registration for the 5K Walk will be from 6:30am to 7:30am, and there will be incentives for participants while supplies last. Entrance to the Health Fair and the 5K Walk is free.

In addition to the exhibits, there will be games and information booths, as well as free immunizations, screenings for blood pressure, height and weight, and blood glucose. There will also be various presentations and fitness classes from organizations like the Cooperative Research Extension and Educational Services' Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program and GetFit



An elementary school student receives her flu shot at an annual Northern Marianas College Health Fair hosted by the NMC Nursing Club.

CNMI. The American Red Cross will also demonstrate CPR techniques, and the event will also feature a lecture on Hansen's disease by Dr. Daniel Lamar.

Participants may also purchase \$1 raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes like dental exams from Seventh Day Adventist, eye exams from Marianas Eye Institute, and gift certificates from Tropical Blends and other companies. Funds

raised will be donated to NMC's Nursing Club to purchase lancets and other supplies used for community service projects.

"Our goal for this Health Fair is to increase awareness and the importance of living a healthier lifestyle by eating the right types of food and becoming more physically active," said NMC Nursing Club president Carina Train. "This is also a wonderful opportunity to expose yourself and your chil-

dren to the different resources available in the CNMI."

Members in the community can also learn about the various health service programs including the Women, Infants, and Children program, which provides nutritional assistance to women and children under the age of 5.

For additional information about the Health Fair, contact Train at 234-5498 Ext. 1346. (NMC)

NMI govt lawyers take part in Guam training

Assistant attorneys general and investigators from the Commonwealth attended a training conference conducted by the National Association of Attorneys General's Training and Research Institute from Jan. 22 to Jan. 25, 2013, in Guam.

Hosted by the Office of the Attorney General of Guam, the four-day conference featured two separate training tracks: NAAGTRI's acclaimed hands on, do-as-you-learn Trial Advocacy and an interactive training based on lectures that covered topics ranging from the representation of state agencies

and ethics to human trafficking and interviewing techniques.

Every Micronesian island group was represented during the training, including American Samoa.

Nine CNMI assistant attorneys general as well as the deputy attorney general participated in the trial advocacy training, which focused on real-world courtroom skills such as effective direct and cross-examination of witnesses; persuasive opening and closing statements; the mechanics for the admission of evidence; and making and

responding to objections.

The week concluded with the attorney-participants conducting a full mock trial putting their newly honed skills to the test.

"I was thrilled to get to participate in the NAGTRI trial advocacy training this past week," said assistant attorney general Nicole Driscoll said. "The training included informative lectures, but focused on workshops where we learned by doing, immediately putting new skills to the test in front of our peers and trainers. The trainers were very supportive and provided invaluable feed-

back. I particularly appreciated that we received real-time critiques of our work, focusing on both style and substance. All of our exercises were filmed and then reviewed with trainers so that we could see what we were doing well and where we still needed to grow. I'll be using this training for years to come!"

All NAAGTRI instructors are veteran attorneys general from various states who are experts in the topics they covered, which made their constant critique and feedback invaluable. (Office of the Governor)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Feb. 7, 2000

DPS lobbies for more funds

With limited funds to efficiently operate this fiscal year, the Department of Public Safety lobbied last Friday for additional appropriation with the House Ways and Means Committee just to make sure that there is enough gasoline to keep the patrol cars running on the island. The department's lobbying efforts apparently paid off as House Floor Leader Oscar Babauta said the Legislature will not allow the operation of a critical agency like DPS to suffer. Mr. Babauta said the department's budget for FY 2000 is over \$800,000 from the previous fiscal year of \$12.4 million. He said the Legislature will give Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio enough flexibility when it passes the budget for FY 2000 before the end of the month so that he can respond to the needs of various government agencies without jeopardizing their services.

Dela Cruz sworn in as Tinian senator

Senator-elect Jose M. Dela Cruz was officially sworn into the 12th CNMI Legislature during the first Senate regular session at the Tinian Courthouse last week. Over 200 guests largely comprised of government officials from Saipan and Rota came to congratulate Senator Dela Cruz. Present were Senate President Paul A. Manglona, the rest of the CNMI Senate, House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, members of the 12th CNMI House of Representatives, the Rota Eighth Municipal Council and other supporters from Tinian.

Feb. 7, 2001

\$4M funding for GHLI sought

Officials of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund sought anew the assistance of the Legislature to review other possible funding sources in hopes to settle over \$4 million debts to at least 295 on and off-island health service providers. Most of the Group Health and Life Insurance Program subscribers are being turned away by different service providers or are being asked to pay up front due to mounting medical bills the agency is yet to settle, program manager Dolores Moore disclosed yesterday. Records showed that the government-health insurance program has outstanding payable of \$2,995,486.48 to service providers in the Commonwealth, Guam, Hawaii, and the mainland US to date.

\$1.5M lump sum budget eyed for Kagman school

Budget difficulties may force the Public School System to trim down the number of its teachers starting next school year. Without additional funding reinforcement from the CNMI government, PSS disclosed it may have to defer from re-hiring teachers and other personnel in school year 2001-2002. Threats of staff downsizing are probable amid a projected reduction in PSS' FY 2001 fourth quarter personnel expenses in the absence of funds to operate the newly-opened Kagman Elementary School. But a proposed legislation that will set aside \$1.5 million in lump sum form to support the operations of the new Kagman campus is targeted to rescue the school system from making use of resources specifically allotted for payroll.

Feb. 7, 2002

'Lure gov't workers to private sector jobs'

House Speaker Heinz Hofschneider yesterday appealed to the business community to help the CNMI government reduce its personnel costs by luring more local workers into private sector jobs. Hofschneider also asked businessmen to work with the government in crafting ways that would attract civil service workers to private sector employment. Talking before members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the House Speaker stressed that the only way to alleviate the adverse impacts of the faltering economy is to reduce the number of government workers, whose salaries account for more than 50 percent of public money.

DPW bats for fast release of revised landfill permit

The Department of Public Works has sought the assistance of two federal agencies that may lobby for the speedy release of a revised U.S. permit involving the Endangered Species Act. The department's move came amid efforts to prevent further delay in starting the construction of the Marpi landfill. This, as the Pacific Drilling Ltd., a partner to the joint venture contracted for the project, expressed readiness to start actual work anytime once the permit problem is resolved.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy, happy birthday to Alvin Adriano, who is celebrating his special day today, Feb. 7, 2013! May aging continue to be good to you. Happy birthday, magas! Have a great one and God bless! Greeting comes from your Joeten Ace Hardware family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Eugene Michael A. San Nicolas Jr., aka Jun, who is celebrating his special day today, Feb. 7! You can have the privileges of being 18 only once. So enjoy it while you've got it. Wishing you a very happy 18th birthday! With much love from your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



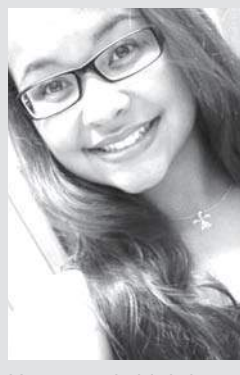
Happy 17th birthday to our cutie and lovely Yunika Biado! Wishing you more birthdays in life and be healthy in the next couple of days! We love you and keep up your good grades! With love, ate and all your Saipan family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy, happy birthday to Danica Shane Chan, who is celebrating her special day today, Feb. 7, 2013. Happy birthday to our makeup artist and hair designer! Have a great one! Greetings come from your Chan and Hernandez families!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 18th birthday to our beautiful Kyanna Martina Tenorio! May God bless your spirit on this wonderful day and keep smiling 'cuz you finally reached that age limit! Yay! We love you! Greetings come from your Jones-Castro family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Island Snapshots



COURTESY CALL

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Micronesia Youth Services Network board and steering committee make a courtesy call on the Legislature on Jan. 28, 2013. From left, Sen. Frank Cruz, Rep. Antonio Agulto, Rep. Roman Benavente, Sen. Frank Borja, Senate President Jude Hofschneider, MYSN board secretary and 2013 Conference Steering Committee chair Frances M. Sablan, House Speaker Joe Deleon Guerrero, SC Program Committee chair John Oliver DLR Gonzales, and MYSN board secretariat George L. Salas.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

YOUTH SUPPORTER

Frances M. Sablan, left, Micronesia Youth Services Network board secretary, and Shelane DLC Borja, right, MYSN 2012 Youth Representative from the CNMI, present the Top 10 Youth Supporter Award to Juan "Santiago" Tenorio and J.E.T. Holding Company for the numerous contributions he and JET Holding Company have given to the CNMI, especially the youth.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

BOARD MEETING

Board of Regents member William Torres, second left, gestures during Tuesday's board meeting where he strongly opposed the recommendation of the NMC management to exempt a candidate from the existing salary schedule for the college.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BEACH PARK CLEANUP

Volunteers from Sandy Beach Homes collected over six truckloads of compost during their cleanup of Chalan Kanoa Beach Park on Feb. 4, 2013.



THANK YOU

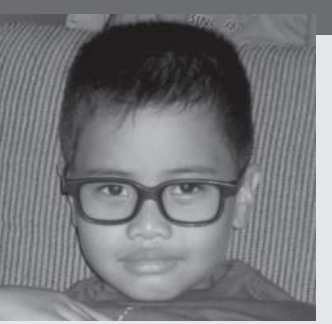
The Whispering Palms Math Court team would like to thank the CNMI Math Court organizers and Koblerville Elementary School for hosting the competition on Feb. 2, 2013.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MATH WIZARD

Congratulations to Jian Carlo "Yoyi" Sales for winning second place in the Math Court competition held on Feb. 2, 2013, at the Koblerville Elementary School! We are so proud of you! Keep up the good work! Greetings come from Tatay, Nanay, Kyna, Celine, Ninong Soc, and Ninong Jayvee.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



SUPER BOWL MONDAY

The parking lot for members of the House of Representatives on Capital Hill had only a few vehicles on Monday during and long after the duration of Super Bowl game in New Orleans.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

LIBRARY TRAINEE

Left, Marianas High School student Christian Villanueva holds the certificate of recognition awarded him on Friday by the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library after completing the Cooperative Education and Training at the CNMI's state library.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A second chance to protect abused women

The following editorial appeared in the Seattle Times on Monday, Feb. 4:

The U.S. Senate is expected to vote this week on the Violence Against Women Act. Again.

A bipartisan effort to renew the measure passed the upper chamber last year but was stalled in the House.

On Jan. 22, Sens. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., and Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, resurrected the bill. Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., fast-tracked it to the floor, where it will likely pass.

House Republican leaders refused to bring the original Senate bill forward for a vote. They must not squander a second chance to save lives.

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) has been in place since 1994 and reauthorized twice without controversy.

The latest version of the bill is similar to last year's in that it expands protections for Native Americans and gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender victims. The only difference is Leahy removed a provision that would have increased visa allotments for illegal-immigrant women who have reported abuse. He plans to deal with that issue as comprehensive immigration reforms come to the fore.

Some members of Congress balk at the prospect of allowing tribal courts to prosecute non-Native Americans who commit domestic and sexual violence on reservations.

The problem is Native American women are more likely to be raped and abused compared with other groups. Those who live on Washington's 29 reservations have also been victimized.

Because most perpetrators are not tribal members, advocates say they commit their vile acts with impunity. By doing nothing, society allows criminals to continue their rampage.

U.S. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Wash., is reportedly taking the lead on VAWA for Republicans. She must respond to the needs of her own constituents here in Washington.

The state receives \$9.3 million annually in VAWA funding. The money is used to help victims through 20 different organizations associated with tribes, YWCA chapters and government-assistance programs.

Grants run through September 2013, but advocates need to be able to plan for the long term.

Here's a suggestion for Congress: It's still early. Greenlight this latest bill before lawmakers become consumed by fierce debates over budget cuts, debt ceiling limits and immigration.

Pass the Violence Against Women Act now.

The abused and battered have no time for political games.

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The birth of the income tax

This month marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 16th Amendment, which gave Congress the power to tax American incomes. Unlike the contentious congressional drama in passing the American Taxpayer Relief Act to avert going over the "fiscal cliff," the 16th Amendment was accorded little emotion when it received a thumbs-up from both houses in 1909.

That was because most congressmen backed the amendment for the wrong reason—they firmly believed that no such taxing proposal would ever be ratified by the requisite three-fourths of the states. It was thought that wealthy Americans lobbying their state legislatures would bury it. Besides, the federal government was in good fiscal shape back then.

Sure, there were a few congressmen, such as Rep. Cordell Hull, D-Tenn., who long championed such a tax in the interests of fairness.

Hull's rationale for the tax has a contemporary ring: "I do believe that the wealth of the country should bear its just share of the burden of taxation and that it should not be permitted to shirk that duty. Anyone at all familiar with the legislative history of the nation must admit that the chief burdens of government have long been borne by those least able to bear them, while accumulated wealth has enjoyed the protection and other blessings of the government and thus far escaped most of its accompanying burdens."

As Hull's pleas began to have an effect on some Southern and Western congressmen who represented agricultural interests resentful of the growing untaxed wealth of millionaire businessmen, opponents made their strategic move. They offered not only to bring the issue to a vote but even to support it—on the unspoken grounds, of course, that the states would reject it. After all, the 30 words of the amendment were downright scary: "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration."

In July 1909, the measure passed the Senate 77 to 0, the House by 318 to 14.

Opponents, however, seemed to have guessed correctly on the reluctance of the states. After six months, only one, Alabama, had ratified the amendment. A mere eight states approved it in 1910. The pace picked up in 1911, with 22 getting on the ratification bandwagon.

No matter. Opponents reasoned that the matter was dead, for no previous amendment had remained viable 2 1/2 years after congressional approval, even though only five more states were necessary to reach the required 36.

Then, surprisingly, the presidential campaign of 1912 breathed

By **THOMAS V. DIBACCO**
Los Angeles Times

Thomas V. DiBacco is a historian and professor emeritus at American University in Washington. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



new life into the measure. All three candidates—incumbent President William Howard Taft, Democrat Woodrow Wilson and third-party challenger Theodore Roosevelt—supported the amendment. On Feb. 3, 1913, the required approval by 36 states had been achieved after a record 43 months on the ratification stump.

But the worst was yet to come. Writing a constitutional amendment was much easier than devising implementing legislation. Congress couldn't agree on the rates and finer details, until October 1913.

And administrative provisions were slow to come. None of the three-page tax forms was available for the first tax year of reporting—1913—until Jan. 8, 1914. Although only a tiny fraction of the population was required to submit a return (a result of generous exemptions that exceeded the incomes of most Americans), questions barraging the Internal Revenue Service were so numerous that taxpayers had to wait for clarifying statements. By Feb. 21, the government threw up its hands, stating that no more clarifying announcements would be issued. The IRS made one concession, however. Because the filing deadline of March 1 fell on a Sunday, the deadline was extended to March 2.

A few months later, at a national tax conference in Denver, experts attacked this noble experiment with income taxes. Attendees blasted the excessive rates of taxation, with a top rate of 7 percent on net incomes over \$500,000. Others pointed out that the law was discriminatory, taxing some incomes but not others.

All agreed that the confusion among taxpayers was due to the taxing verbiage of the 27-page law. In the words of one tax expert, A. C. Rearick of New York: "Its complexity is its distinguishing characteristic. To begin with, the language in which the act is couched is involved and its rhetoric bewildering. It contains sentences hundreds of words in length, in which clauses are added to clauses and provisos heaped upon provisos. Its terminology is confusing. Identical passages are variously referred to as paragraphs, sub-sections and sections."

To be sure, Rearick had a better idea. It was called—get this—"Simplification of the Federal Income Tax."

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The case for drone strikes

President Obama's second term begins amid intense criticism of the drone strikes being conducted by the United States in Pakistan. Much of this criticism is based on claims that drones are doing more harm than good.

A recent Stanford/NYU study concluded that drones cause excessive civilian casualties and frequently fail to hit leadership targets, and that the presence of drones spreads fear and anxiety among the civilian population, disrupts civilians' daily lives, limits public gatherings and disrupts access to education. Other critics cite the Taliban's detention and execution of suspected "spies" who assist drone targeting.

Like many such studies, the NYU/Stanford one did not attempt to interview a single member of the U.S. military. Had it done so, it might have learned that (at least in Afghanistan) there have been instances of Taliban or al-Qaida forces killing civilians and placing their bodies at the site of drone attacks to increase civilian casualty counts. Yet the study's only attempt to gain the government's perspective was a letter requesting a meeting with the National Security Council. Because the council did not reply within a month, the U.S. government's perspective was excluded from the report.

The report's discussion of civilian casualties adopts the highest estimate offered by any of the three sources that compile such information—the Bureau of Investigative Journalism. And it consistently describes civilian casualties in the aggregate since the beginning of the drone program rather than examining recent trends. Even the bureau estimates that only seven civilians have been killed in about 60 strikes conducted over the last 13 months. These same strikes are estimated to have killed 250 to 400 militants.

Any alternative use of force against Taliban or al-Qaida forces would be likely to cause many more civilian casualties.

Even if drones continue to cause some civilian casualties and have other negative effects, the question of whether continuing the drone campaign is a good policy decision cannot be answered without carefully considering the alternatives available.

There are four obvious options for dealing with the Taliban/al-Qaida presence in the federally administered tribal areas of Pakistan.

One is to accept their presence and control of that area and cease operations against them. But this course of action wouldn't address most of the concerns about drones.

Taliban control would be far more disruptive to the daily lives of

those living in the tribal region than drones are. Public meetings, unless authorized by the Taliban, would be rare and extremely dangerous. The Taliban's shooting of a 14-year-old girl for attending school speaks volumes about access to education under Taliban rule. And the detention and execution of undesirable individuals would continue, albeit under the guise of heresy rather than spying. Also, ceding the territory to Taliban control would provide the Afghan Taliban with a safe haven from which to continue its operations against American and Afghan forces across the border.

The second option would be for Pakistan's military to assert control over the region. However, its last serious attempt to do so—the Swat Valley campaign of 2009—utilized armored vehicles, artillery and airstrikes to try to dislodge about 5,000 Taliban fighters. This resulted in the displacement of more than 1 million civilians who fled the army's indiscriminate firepower.

Last year, mere rumors that the Pakistani military was planning a campaign in Waziristan caused thousands to flee. Pakistan lacks both the desire and the capacity to pursue another campaign to gain control of the tribal areas, and any attempt to conduct such a campaign would be a humanitarian nightmare for the civilians who live there.

The third option would be for the United States to use ground troops and special forces to conduct counterinsurgency operations in the tribal areas. Even if Pakistan were willing to publicly consent to American ground forces on its territory, an issue that it has carefully finessed in the context of drone operations, it is unlikely that this option would alleviate any of the frequently voiced concerns about the use of drones.

If operations in Afghanistan are any guide, using ground troops would result in as many or more civilian casualties than the current drone campaign and would be more deeply unpopular in Pakistan—not to mention that it would result in higher U.S. casualties. Ground operations in territory controlled by the Taliban would still rely heavily on drone surveillance, and most raids would occur at night.

Such operations in Afghanistan were so unpopular and disruptive of daily life that President Hamid Karzai insisted that continued Afghan cooperation with the United States was contingent on Afghan control over night raids.

The final option is the continued use of drones. Even according to the least favorable numbers presented by the Bureau of Investi-

By **MICHAEL W. LEWIS**

Los Angeles Times

Michael W. Lewis teaches international law and the law of war at Ohio Northern University's College of Law. He is a co-author of The War on Terror and the Laws of War: A Military Perspective. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



gative Journalism, drones have effectively disrupted the leadership structure of the Taliban and al-Qaida in Pakistan by killing scores of senior leaders and operational commanders. And the drones' constant presence continues to deny the Taliban a safe haven in which it can train and organize its forces for operations in Afghanistan. Most important, drones have done this while consistently improving their accuracy and reducing civilian casualties.

After examining the alternatives, it is clear that drones remain the best option available to minimize the negative effects of the conflict on civilians while continuing to disrupt the Taliban and deny it control of territory in the tribal areas.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How to save the Fund

This is a simple solution to what has become a complex quagmire with no solution in sight and a deadline looming in the horizon. I have made numerous calls for several weeks to speak with newly elected Rep. Mario Taitano about a possible solution for the Retirement Fund, as he is in charge of saving the Fund from the legislative side. Well, I guess you know from reading this he never returned any of my calls but that's another story.

Anyway, it was obvious to me a long time ago that the best option for saving the Fund was the sale of the hotels and resorts but with a slight augmentation. I have been pushing this issue since the governor first proposed this solution this past summer and I wouldn't be surprised if someone is trying to take the idea and run with it. Anyway, I want to augment the legislation so the sale would include a "progressive property tax" that will progress or decline with the cost of living index and in conjunction with the value of the property. When the cost of living index and/or the value of the property goes up, so will the taxes. Selling the property under this plan will allow the indigenous people to always maintain "virtual ownership," which in simple terms means the limited timed leases will be extended forever—as long as the owners pay their taxes every year and maintain the property. There is also the fact that all transfers of these properties will have to be pre-approved by a governing body or office of the CNMI government.

We must put the debt to the Fund in the proper perspective. In reality it is a debt that was created of, for and by the people through the representatives, senators, and governors they elected. We are trying to make everyone pay the debt except for the ones who created it. The money owed the Fund is owed by the people and was spent by the people of today and selling a bond puts it on our children. The goblin gave away bonuses paid by the Fund to a few and now they want take money from all the retirees and the pending retirees when it is owed by every taxpaying citizen. Let's keep it real and just pay our debt.

It is time for all the people to shoulder their responsibility in paying the debt to the Fund by offering the sale of these properties with a property tax attached to every property sold by the government. Private landowners will not be affected by this tax. The sale of these properties has been estimated to generate more than what is owed the Fund and there will continue to be a yearly payment in taxes that will be in the millions. I was told by a reliable source that there could be over \$400 million generated from the sale of these properties, which is more than enough to save the Fund!

I shouldn't have to tell anyone how enticed the owners will be to make these properties more appealing and productive when they can finally have the opportunity to own their investment as opposed to renting it by lease. The CNMI is America and if we don't start doing things more in the spirit of being America by allowing ownership for investors, we are doomed to keep repeating the same failing mistakes that got us in this whale of an economic mess. As a retiree, I am asking that this solution be seriously considered before it is too late.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

My Marlboro Reds or my life? I'm thinking

So just how long do I want to live, anyway? It's a question I've been pondering this past week, since I read a study explaining when smokers can expect to check out, based on when they quit.

I've been trying to stop since the first of the year. Some days, I've smoked few or no cigarettes. On other days, though, the effort has involved smoking quite a bit but being filled with robust self-loathing. That, along with the furious glances and unexpected kidney punches I authorized my 11-year-old daughter to deliver in the hopes it would help me stop, make smoking more expensive and painful than not smoking, but not much more fun.

According to the study, by the Center for Global Health Research in Toronto, most people who smoke till they die will lose about 10 years of life expectancy, and are unlikely to see 80. Just 38 percent of female smokers and 26 percent of male smokers who never kicked the Camel managed eight decades, while 70 percent of women and 61 percent of men who never lit up did.

But I'm not sure I'm shooting for my 80s. I'm out of touch and uncool at 42, even when I don my parachute pants and Vanilla Ice concert T-shirt. By 83 I'll be the guy at the Stop & Shop who doesn't take out his checkbook until all his groceries are bagged, demands a price check on stewed prunes, and tells the cashier about each of his bunions while the line behind him runs out the building.

Puffers who put down the Pall Malls between the ages of 55 and 64 lose about six years of life expectancy, while those who quit between 45 and 54 forfeit four. And anyone who manages to swear off the Salems between 35 and 44 sacrifices just about one year, on average.

To know exactly what this means for me, I'd have to know how long I would live had I never smoked at all. This is tough to say, because as far as I know, I don't have any forebears who never smoked. If you found a prehistoric painting of the Fillers on a cave wall, they'd all be chugging fermented taro and tonics, playing gin rummy with painted rocks and smoking something.

My mother died at 65. She smoked like wet wood on a campfire and considered vegetables a delivery system for butter, cheese and

By **LANE FILLER**

Newsday

Lane Filler is a member of the Newsday editorial board. His email address is lane.filler@newsday.com.



dressings. Her only exercise consisted of exercising her right to point out the shortcomings of her children, admittedly a strenuous and lengthy process. My dad died at 55, but healthwise, he made my mom look like Jillian Michaels from "The Biggest Loser."

So I'm in a sweet spot for quitting. If I kick today, I'll only have lost one year of life.

The problem is, I don't know just how awesome the tail end of my story will be. Does my huge investment in carpet-lint-powered automobiles pan out? Will there be Social Security? How about Medicare? Old doesn't look fun in general, but "old, broke and lacking medical treatment" might actually lose out to "dead" on my list.

And what about music? In theory, the tunes in 40 years will be so bad that we will scream, "That's not music, turn it off" at our grandkids when they play their stuff. My generation came up on NWA and Rage Against the Machine. What could possibly be worse than what we listened to? Loud tracks of screaming giraffes being run over by cars pulling steel trash cans? I don't think I need to hear that.

But I would like to meet those grandchildren. I'd like to dance at my daughter's wedding, or at least pop wheelies on my Rascal scooter.

The idea that if I do it now I won't lose too many years, and if I don't, I will, feels very cut and dried. It makes it seem, and rightfully so, that my premature death might well be optional. That's what it seemed like in the case of my parents, and I wouldn't want my daughter to feel about my choices the way I felt about theirs.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

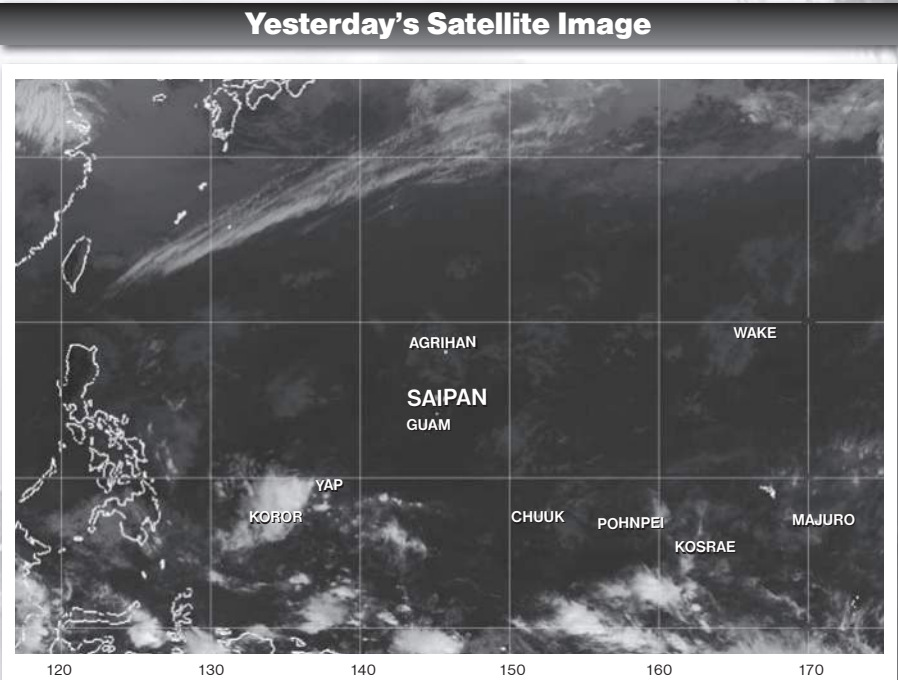
5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 75°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°

Micronesia		
Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 77
Palau	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 80
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 80
Majuro	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 80

Around The Globe		
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 64
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 29 ▼ 6
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲ 68 ▼ 59
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 80 ▼ 69
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 43 ▼ 32
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▼ 45
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 89 ▼ 61
Miami	Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 66
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 33 ▼ 31
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 39 ▼ 34
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 41 ▼ 30
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲ 33 ▼ 15
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 50 ▼ 35
Salem	Showers	▲ 44 ▼ 35
San Francisco	Showers	▲ 54 ▼ 44
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲ 20 ▼ 4
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲ 45 ▼ 32
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 43 ▼ 38

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
6:10 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
11:09 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
4:20 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
11:54 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough heads southeastward from 6N130E through a weak circulation centered south of Koror at 5N135E to well south of Guam near the equator at 1N146E then turns eastward to end at EQ171E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the circulation are occurring over Koror within 115 miles of a line from 5N132E to 10N137E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with the trough are present southeast of Koror and Yap south of a line from 2N137E to 3N141E to EQ146E. Similar weather exists south of Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae or south of a line from EQ150E to 4N160E to EQ167E.

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:45 AM	6:18 PM	Today	3:32 AM	3:13 PM
Friday	6:44 AM	6:18 PM	Friday	4:30 AM	4:15 PM
Saturday	6:44 AM	6:19 PM	Saturday	5:24 AM	5:16 PM
Sunday	6:44 AM	6:19 PM	Sunday	6:14 AM	6:16 PM
Monday	6:43 AM	6:19 PM	Monday	7:01 AM	7:13 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ **CAMPUS BULLETIN**
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF FEB. 5, 2013									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7		UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7	
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5		UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily	
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily		UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	
UA5074	11:10am	12:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7	
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily		UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily	
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily		UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily	
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily						
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)					ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN				
DL287	6:00am	8:40am	Daily		UA5062	3:35am	4:10am	1, 3, 5	
DL285	6:35am	9:15am	1, 5, 7		UA5038	10:55am	11:30am	6	
DL297	4:25pm	7:20pm	Daily						
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily		DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily	
					DL286	7:40pm	12:15am+1	4, 6, 7	
					DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN				
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 6, 7		OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily	
OZ608	3:30am	6:40am	3						
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1		OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 5, 6	
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		OZ607	9:35pm	2:25am+1	2	
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX						
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily		SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
					OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX	
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7		OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7	
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)					OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
MU7108	3:50am	7:40am	1, 5						
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6		3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)					BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN				
XF1734	11:55am	5:10pm	5		MU7107	7:40pm	2:50am+1	4, 7	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1		3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5	
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN				
UA5070/191	4:35am	10:00am	6 via GUM		XF1733	8:00pm	12:05am+1	4	
UA5070/191	4:40am	10:00am	3		MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
DL287/173	6:00am	10:25pm	Daily via NRT		OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN	
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM		DL172/288	8:05am	1:15am+1	Daily via NRT	
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM	
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN		UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM	
UA5072/PR111	9:45pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
					OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)					PR110/UA5072	10:15pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN		UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	2, 5 via GUM	
UA5076/147	3:10pm	10:30pm	1, 5 via GUM		HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
OZ604/749	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN		OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN	
					OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
					OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
					UA180/5071	11:25pm	10:40am+1	1 via GUM	
					UA180/5077	11:25pm	6:25pm+1	5 via GUM	

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE									
Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency		
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily		
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily		
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily		
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily		
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily		
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily		
Rota-Saipan									
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily						
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan					
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily		
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily		
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily		
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily		
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily		
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily		
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily		
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily		
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily		
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily		
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily		
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily		
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily		

Business

Dell to go private in \$24.4B deal led by founder

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Slumping personal computer maker Dell is bowing out of the stock market in a \$24.4 billion buyout that represents the largest deal of its kind since the Great Recession dried up the financing for such risky maneuvers.

The complex agreement announced Tuesday will allow Dell Inc.'s management, including eponymous founder Michael Dell, to attempt a company turnaround away from the glare and financial pressures of Wall Street.

Dell stockholders will be paid \$13.65 per share to leave the company on its own. That's 25 percent more than the stock's price of \$10.88 before word of the buyout talks trickled out three weeks ago. But it's a steep markdown from the shares' price of \$24 six years ago when Michael Dell returned for a second go-round as CEO.

Dell shares rose 15 cents to close at \$13.42, indicating that investors don't believe a better offer is likely.

The chances of a successful counter offer look slim, given the forces lined up behind the current deal.

Michael Dell, the company's largest shareholder, is throwing in his 14 percent stake and an undisclosed sliver of his \$16 billion fortune to help finance the sale to a group led by the investment firm Silver Lake.

"We recognize that (transformation) will still take more time, investment and patience, and I believe our efforts will be better supported by partnering with Silver Lake in our shared vision," Michael Dell said in a statement.

Software maker Microsoft, which counts Dell among its biggest customers, is backing the deal by lending \$2 billion to the buyers. The remaining money to pay for the acquisition is being borrowed through loans arranged by several banks, saddling Dell with an estimated \$15 billion in debt that could raise doubts about its financial stability among its risk-averse corporate customers.

The sale is structured as a leveraged buyout, which requires the acquired company to repay the debt taken on to finance the deal.

Dell's sale is the second-highest-priced leveraged buyout of a technology company, trailing the \$27 billion paid for First

Data Corp. in 2007.

The deal is the largest leveraged buyout of any type since November 2007 when Alltel Corp. sold for \$25 billion to TPG Capital and a Goldman Sachs subsidiary. Within a few months, the U.S. economy had collapsed into the worst recession since World War II.

Dell's decision to go private is a reflection of the tough times facing the personal computer industry as more technology spending flows toward smartphones and tablet computers. PC sales fell 3.5 percent last year, according to the research group Gartner Inc., the first annual decline in more than a decade. What's more, tablet computers are expected to outsell laptops this year.

The shift has weakened long-time stalwarts such as Dell, fellow PC maker Hewlett-Packard Co., chip maker Intel Corp. and Microsoft Corp.

Michael Dell, 47, is betting that his company will be able to evolve into a more diversified seller of technology services, business software and high-end computers without having to pander to the stock market's fixation on whether earnings are

growing from one quarter to the next. Dell expects to complete the sale by the end of July.

Once the deal closes, Dell's stock will stop trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market 25 years

after the Round Rock, Texas, company raised \$30 million in an initial public offering.

Dell's founder strikes deal to turn it around



In this Friday, Feb. 26, 1999, file photo, Michael Dell, foreground, sits in the dorm room at the University of Texas in Austin, Texas, where he launched his enterprise as a college freshman.

NEW YORK (AP)—It's easy to forget now, but Michael Dell was the Mark Zuckerberg of his day.

Hailed as a young genius, he created the inexpensive, made-to-order personal computer in his University of Texas dorm room and sold it straight to the public. In the 1980s and '90s, his face appeared on magazine covers, and well before he turned 40, he was a college dropout-turned-billionaire CEO, ranked alongside Bill Gates and Steve Jobs.

But that was a long time ago in the fast-moving world of high technology. Now the PC

is getting eclipsed by smartphones and tablet computers, and Dell is struggling to save his company—and his legacy.

Tuesday's announcement that Michael Dell and the investment firm Silver Lake have struck a \$24.4 billion deal to buy publicly traded Dell Inc. and take it private may well be the founder's last chance to recapture his former glory. The agreement will allow the company to attempt a turnaround without having to worry about pleasing Wall Street with its earnings.

For Michael Dell, 47, the attempt to retool the company he

built is personal, said technology analyst Patrick Moorhead, who runs Moor Insights & Strategy.

"His name is on the logo and all the buildings. So he takes all of this very personally," Moorhead said. "This is a way for him to solidify the way people will look at him and remember him."

Analysts said Dell Inc. will have to mine more profitable areas such as technology consulting and business software.

In a statement, Dell himself said little more than that the transformation will "take more time, investment and patience."

Delta enhances BusinessElite experience with new amenity kit

Delta Air Lines is partnering with premium travel, business and lifestyle accessories brand Tumi and skincare product brand Malin+Goetz to provide an enhanced amenity kit in the intercontinental BusinessElite cabins of its international flights. The new amenity kits will debut onboard later this month.

"Delta continues to find new and innovative ways to differentiate the BusinessElite experience for our customers and the introduction of new amenities from Malin+Goetz and Tumi is a sophisticated way for us to enhance the time they spend with us in flight," said Joanne Smith, Delta's senior vice president of In-Flight Service. "These products are a unique, additional element to our BusinessElite experience, which includes full flat-bed seats, an industry-leading food and wine program, hours of digital entertainment

options and premium pillows and quilted duvets."

The amenity kits will feature Malin+Goetz's Neroli Hand & Body Lotion and Lip Moisturizer, a Tumi eye mask, socks, shoe horn, shoe polish, comb, dental kit, tissues, antibacterial wipes, earplugs and a pen. The products will be contained in a Tumi case made from the brand's exclusive, virtually abrasion-proof ballistic nylon fabric.

"Our partnership with Delta is an ideal alliance for Tumi, as our products have long been associated with a quality travel experience," said Alan Krantzler, senior vice president - Brand Management for Tumi. "Our customers look for 'best in class' products and services in all aspects of their lives - Delta, Tumi, and Malin+Goetz is a perfect combination that delivers on this promise for the in-flight experience."

"It has not gone unnoticed

that Delta has been spending a tremendous amount of effort and energy to develop a truly great airline," said Andrew Goetz, co-founder of Malin+Goetz. "Design, quality and customer service are the backbone of our DNA at Malin+Goetz - Delta and their customers embrace the same. We are thus very excited to partner with Delta to expose our brand and products to likeminded individuals in an environment with so much synergy."

Delta's intercontinental BusinessElite service, available on all long-haul international flights, includes a five-course gourmet meal paired with a wine menu curated by Master Sommelier Andrea Robinson. A Panasonic personal entertainment system featuring an extensive library of movies, TV shows, music and games on demand and a full flat-bed seat - each with direct aisle access, premium pillows and quilted duvets complete the first class experience. (Delta)

» Tumi case will contain Malin+Goetz products



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
13,979.30	1,511.29	3,171.58
+99.22	+15.58	+40.41
+0.71%	+1.04%	+1.29%

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	0.9665	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7562	Philippine Peso	40.6659
British Pound	0.6387	Indian Rupee	7.7531	Singapore Dollar	1.2375
Canadian Dollar	0.9968	Indonesian Rupiah	9676.03	South Korean Won	1089.8
Chinese Yuan	6.2364	Japanese Yen	93.9286	Swiss Franc	0.9086
Euro	0.7364	Malaysian Ringgit	3.0922	Taiwan Dollar	29.512
		New Zealand Dollar	1.1842	Thailand Baht	29.737

Nation

FBI: Ala. man was in 'firefight' with SWAT agents

MIDLAND CITY, Ala. (AP)—The Alabama man who held a 5-year-old boy captive for nearly a week engaged in a firefight with SWAT agents storming his underground bunker before he was killed during the rescue operation, the FBI said Tuesday night. Also, bomb technicians scouring his rural property found two explosive devices, one in the bunker, one in a plastic pipe that negotiators used to communicate with the man.

Officers killed 65-year-old Jimmy Lee Dykes Monday, said an official in Midland City, speaking on condition of anonymity. The bunker raid came six days after Dykes boarded a school bus, fatally shot the driver and abducted the boy, who by all accounts was unharmed.

Dykes "reinforced the bunker against any attempted entry by law enforcement," FBI Special Agent Jason Pack said in an email. The devices found were "disrupted," Pack said, though he did not say whether that meant they were detonated or disarmed. Officers will continue Wednesday to sweep the 100-acre property and, when they finish, investigators can more thoroughly investigate, Pack said.

For days, officers passed food, medicine, toys and other items into the bunker, which was similar to a tornado shelter and apparently had running water, heat and cable television.

On Monday, authorities said,

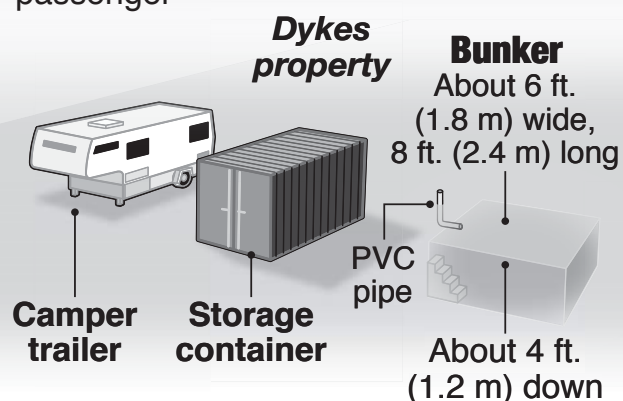
Hostage situation ended

FBI agents on Monday stormed a buried bunker where a 65-year-old man identified as Jimmy Lee Dykes was holding captive a 5-year-old boy taken from a school bus a week earlier. A look at the site:

Timeline

Jan. 29

- Dykes reportedly fatally shoots school bus driver Charles Albert Poland Jr., 66, grabs 5-year-old passenger



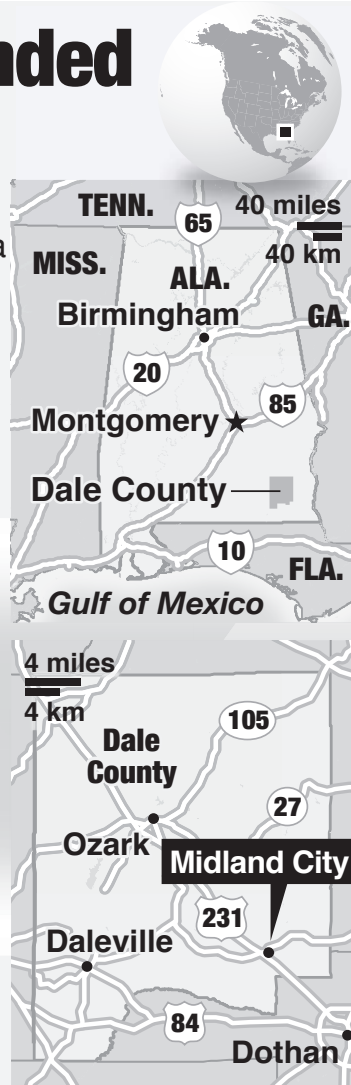
- Dykes takes the boy into bunker

Next several days

- Hostage negotiators speak to Dykes through PVC pipe serving as airway

Feb. 4

- Agents storm bunker; Dykes dies, boy recovered alive



Source: ESRI, TeleAtlas, AP, Reuters, CNN

Graphic: Robert Dorrell

© 2013 MCT

Dykes had a gun and appeared increasingly agitated, though it's unclear exactly how his behavior changed. Negotiations—the details of which have not been made public—were deteriorating. The Midland City official said law enforcement agents had been viewing Dykes with some sort of camera, which is how they saw that he had a gun.

Pack declined to get into specifics, but confirmed that high-tech surveillance equipment was used during the police standoff.

Agents stormed the bunker, whisking the boy to safety and leaving Dykes dead. The official who confirmed that officers had killed Dykes and the use of the camera cited discussions with law enforcement and requested anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak publicly about the investigation.

Neighbors said they heard what sounded like explosions and gunshots, though the FBI and local authorities didn't say how many shots were fired and by whom.

No officers or agents were injured, Pack said.

The 5-year-old boy also appeared to be doing well at a hospital in nearby Dothan, acting like a normal kid. He was running around, playing with a toy dinosaur and other action figures, eating a turkey sandwich and watching "SpongeBob SquarePants," relatives and Dale County Sheriff Wally Olson said.

"We know he's OK physically, but we don't know how he is mentally," Betty Jean Ransbottom, the boy's grandmother, told The Associated Press on Tuesday. She added that she feared the ordeal would stay with the child, who turns 6 on Wednesday, the rest of his life.

An FBI agent had been staying with the family, and relatives learned of the child's rescue after another agent at the scene called the person who was with them.

The family was relieved and grateful for all the support in a community where ribbons, flares and vigils all symbolized the prayers for the safe return of the boy, whom law enforcement officials have only identified by his first name, Ethan.

The boy's mother, in a statement released by authorities, expressed her thanks for all the hard work of so many officers to bring her son home. The woman declined to be identified, the statement said.

"For the first time in almost a week, I woke up this morning to the most beautiful sight ... my sweet boy," she said. "I can't describe how incredible it is to hold him again."

Dale County Coroner Woodrow Hilboldt said Tuesday that he had not been able to confirm exactly how Dykes died because the man's body remained in the bunker. An autopsy was to be conducted in Montgomery once the body is taken away.

Obama urges stopgap budget deal to avoid deep cuts

WASHINGTON (AP)—Eager to buy time and avoid economic pain, President Barack Obama urged Congress on Tuesday to pass targeted short-term spending cuts and higher taxes as a way to put off sweeping, automatic cuts that would slice deeply into military and domestic programs starting March 1.

Obama's appeal came as Congress' budget office projected a yearly federal deficit under \$1 trillion for the first time in his presidency and as Republicans applied political pressure on the president to submit balanced

budgets, pushing fiscal issues back to the forefront in Washington after weeks devoted to immigration and guns.

A short-term deficit-trimming measure would once again delay the broad and onerous spending cuts that are unpopular with both political parties, underscoring the government's difficulty adopting long-term budget policies. Obama conceded the problem, even though he has previously scoffed at temporary

budget reprieves.

"Let's keep on chipping away at this problem together, as Democrats and Republicans, to give our workers and our businesses the support that they need to thrive in the weeks and months ahead," Obama said in a short statement in the White House briefing room.

Illustrating the challenge for the government, the Congressional Budget Office said the government will run a \$845

billion deficit this year. That's down from last year's \$1.1 trillion but still high enough to require the government to borrow 24 cents of every dollar it spends. The report predicted the deficit would decline to \$430 billion by 2015, the lowest since President George W. Bush's last year in office.

However, as more baby boomers retire and claim Medicare and Social Security, deficits would move higher and again reach near \$1 trillion in the latter portion of the 10-year window.

Southwest border.

The current administration has "deployed historic levels of personnel, technology and infrastructure to help secure the Southwest border," she said Tuesday. It has meant that attempts to illegally cross from Mexico are half of what they were in 2008 and a 78 percent down from their peak in 2000. "The numbers are the numbers," she said.

Last year only, the El Paso sector saw an increase of 71 percent in seizures of currency, 39 percent more drugs interdicted and a 139 percent of illegal weapons seized, the secretary said. The sector includes far West Texas and all of New Mexico.



Obama

Homeland Security secretary touts border safety

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano called Republican lawmakers' insistence that the border be secured before there is immigration reform a flawed argument.

At a stop to inspect border security in El Paso on Tuesday, Napolitano said the argument ignores gains made in illegal immigrant captures as well as seizures of drugs, weapons and currency.

She also said the argument's fundamental flaw is contending that border security is unrelated to interior enforcement such as verification of legal residence of

job applicants.

Napolitano said the immigration "system as a whole is badly in need of reform." It is, she said, inextricably linked with interior enforcement, visa reform and the process for legal migration, a pathway to citizenship and earned pathway for those already here.

A bipartisan group of senators wants assurances on border security as Congress considers proposals that would bring the biggest changes to immigration law in nearly three decades. Last week, the group of senators released a blueprint that would bring a path to citizenship for

people living in the U.S. illegally, but they demanded assurances on border security first.

President Barack Obama does not endorse such a linkage in his own immigration proposal. But Republicans in the Senate group, including John McCain of Arizona and Marco Rubio of Florida, say they cannot support an immigration bill that doesn't make a pathway to citizenship conditional on a secure border.

"I believe the border is secure. I believe the border's a safe border. That's not to say everything is 100 percent," Napolitano said Monday in San Diego during the first leg of her trip to the

Slayings highlight risks of 'gun therapy' for vets

DALLAS (AP)—Chris Kyle, reputed to be the deadliest sniper in American military history, often took veterans out shooting as a way to ease the trauma of war. Taking aim at a target, he once wrote, would help coax them back into normal, everyday life with a familiar, comforting activity.

But his death at a North Texas shooting range—allegedly at the hands of a troubled Iraq War veteran he was trying to assist—has highlighted the potential dangers of the practice.

Former soldiers and others familiar with their struggles say shooting a gun can sometimes be as therapeutic as playing with a dog or riding a horse. Psychiatrists wonder, though, whether the smell of the gunpowder and the crack of gunfire can trigger unpredictable responses, particularly in someone suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder or other illnesses that aren't immediately obvious.

"You have to be very careful with doing those kinds of treatment," said Dr. Charles Marmar, chairman of the psychiatry department at New York University's Langone Medical Center. "People have to be well prepared for them."

"But obviously you would not take a person who was highly unstable and give them access to weapons," added Marmar, who said he wasn't commenting on the suspected shooter's mental state. "That's very different."

Paul Rieckhoff, founder of the advocacy group Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, said he has heard of exposure to weapons being helpful to some veterans who weren't keen on meeting with a psychiatrist or undergoing therapy sessions.

"These types of programs can often be an on-ramp for people who won't go to any other type of program," Rieckhoff said. "Anything that is connected to the military culture is an easier bridge to cross."

However, he said, therapy with guns is not "incredibly common right now."

Former soldiers sometimes take solace in target shooting and use it to reconnect with other veterans, said Rieckhoff and Tim McCarty, a former Air Force staff sergeant who now works at a gun range.

After he left the Air Force in 2011, McCarty said he felt confused as he went from being a valued member of the military to a civilian looking for a job.

Asia

Japan accuses China of using weapons radar on ship



This undated photo provided by Japan's Defense Ministry shows China's Jiangwei-II class frigate vessel. Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera said Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013, that Chinese navy vessels, including Jiangwei-II, directed the radar in two incidents last month, on Jan. 19 and Jan. 30.

TOKYO (AP)—Japan on Tuesday accused Chinese navy vessels of locking a weapons-targeting radar on a Japanese destroyer and helicopter amid escalating territorial disputes between the Asian powers.

Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera accused Chinese navy vessels of using the weapons radar in two incidents last month, on Jan. 19 and Jan. 30. He said it happened in the

East China Sea, suggesting it was near disputed islands controlled by Japan but also claimed by China. He did not give an exact location.

Onodera said the action could have led to a dangerous situation. Shots were not fired on either occasion.

"It is extremely abnormal to use such fire-control radar, or radar for (weapons) firing," he told reporters in an emergency

briefing. "The incident could have led to a dangerous situation in case of a misstep."

"We will sternly call on the Chinese side to refrain from such dangerous acts," he added.

The United States, which is a treaty ally of Japan, voiced concern. State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said such actions could escalate tensions and increase the risk of an incident or mis-

calculation that would undermine peace, stability and economic growth in the region.

Chinese maritime surveillance vessels have repeatedly entered Japanese-claimed waters around the islands since last September, when Japan's government nationalized some of the islands, known as Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China. The purchase triggered violent protests across China.

Japan's Foreign Ministry lodged a formal protest with China earlier Tuesday through the Chinese Embassy in Tokyo and the Japanese Embassy in Beijing, officials said. China said it would look into the alleged incidents, according to Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida.

Onodera said Japan waited to report the incidents because it took time to verify

the source and nature of the radar allegedly used by the Chinese frigates.

New U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry spoke by phone Tuesday with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi and they discussed "regional security issues," Nuland said. She declined to say whether the radar-targeting incidents were among the issues they talked about.

Bangladesh sentences Islamic party leader to life

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—A Bangladeshi tribunal prosecuting cases stemming from the 1971 independence war sentenced a leader of an Islamic opposition party to life in prison Tuesday, sparking street clashes with police that killed two people and injured dozens more.

Opposition leaders have criticized the war crimes trials, held 40 years after the country won independence from Pakistan, as an effort to weaken challengers to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government, and human rights groups have raised concerns about their fairness.

In a packed courtroom at the High Court in Dhaka, Judge Obaidul Hasan pronounced Abdul Quader Mollah guilty of

killing a student and a family of 11 and of aiding Pakistani troops in killing 369 others. Defense lawyer Abdur Razzaq said he will appeal the verdict.

In anticipation of the verdict, Mollah's Jamaat-e-Islami party had ordered a nationwide general strike to denounce the trial, shutting down schools and shops and halting most traffic in Dhaka.

Jamaat supporters exploded homemade bombs and clashed with police in parts of the capital, leaving several people injured, said ATN News, a private TV station. The party denounced the verdict and said it was extending the strike through Wednesday.

After the verdict was announced, one man was killed and dozens others injured when police opened fire at dozens of Jamaat supporters in Chittagong

city, 135 miles (216 kilometers) southeast of Dhaka, local police official Shafiqul Islam said. He said police fired after rock throwing protesters attacked them.

A home-made bomb killed another man late Tuesday, Dhaka's Daily Star newspaper said. It did not provide further details and police officials were not immediately available to comment on the second death.

In Dhaka, the government deployed paramilitary border guards to boost night-time security, the home ministry said.

Though the sentence was the most serious possible, short of execution, a government official expressed disappointment.

"It did not reflect the people's expectation. We are frustrated," Junior Law Minister Qamrul Islam said.

Mollah and five other Jamaat leaders have been on trial before the tribunal on charges they committed atrocities during the nine-month independence war against Pakistan. Last month, the tribunal sentenced former party member Abul Kalam Azad to death in the first war crimes trial verdict.

The tribunal was formed by Hasina's government in 2010. Jamaat-e-Islami, a key ally of opposition leader Khaleda Zia, says the trials are politically motivated, and Zia, a former prime minister, has called the tribunal a farce. Authorities deny the claim.

International human rights groups have raised questions about the conduct of the tribunals, including the disappearance—outside the courthouse

gates—of a defense witness who was about to testify.

Until it gained independence in 1971, Bangladesh was the eastern wing of Pakistan. Jamaat campaigned against Bangladesh's independence war and

has been accused of forming several groups to help Pakistani troops in killing, rape and arson. The government says Pakistani troops aided by local collaborators killed 3 million people and raped 200,000 women.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Blast at restaurant kills 5 in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A bomb hidden in a pressure cooker exploded inside a restaurant in northern Afghanistan Tuesday, killing five people, senior officials said. The explosion, which occurred shortly before noon in Faryab province, was targeting a former jihadi commander, according to the provincial governor Mohammadulla Batash. The former commander, Mohammad Nadir, was among seven people wounded in the blast in the upscale district of Khwaja Sabz Posh Wali, Batash said, adding that two suspects had been arrested.

Pakistan plans park where bin Laden was killed

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistani officials say the government plans to build a recreation complex in the town where al-Qaida founder Osama bin Laden was killed by U.S. commandos in 2011. Syed Aqil Shah, sports and tourism minister in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, said Monday the project in Abbottabad will have a zoo, paragliding club and water sports facilities. It will also have cultural heritage park. Shah said the development is not intended to counter Abbottabad's negative reputation following bin Laden's discovery there. He said it's part of a revival of recreational and cultural activities in the province.

4 merchants killed in Thailand's restive south

PATTANI, Thailand (AP)—Suspected militants robbed and killed four fruit traders in Thailand's insurgency-plagued south on Tuesday, while police arrested a suspect wanted for a deadly hotel bombing in the region. The insurgents stormed a shelter in Yala province's Krong Pinang district Tuesday morning and tied up the four merchants—two men and two women. They forced one of the men to show them where the money was kept before killing them, Police Col. Metha Singhasena said. Metha said the assailants took away 100,000 baht (\$3,354) but spared the life of a local worker.

US, China top diplomats discuss NKorea

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration talked to China on Tuesday about North Korea facing "further consequences" under a recent U.N. Security Council resolution if it conducts a nuclear test, the State Department said.

New Secretary of State John Kerry discussed North Korea's "continued provocative rhetoric" in a phone call with China's Foreign Minister Yang

Jiechi. It follows Kerry's conversations this week with his counterparts from Japan and South Korea, key U.S. allies in the region.

State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland told a news briefing that the three conversations "were remarkably similar" on the importance of implementing the commitments of the January resolution if the North takes further action that violates its inter-

national obligations.

Nuland said that all the countries are concerned that despite the strong measures in the resolution, "the provocative rhetoric continues, which means that we've all got to stay unified in watching this and making absolutely clear to (Kim) Jong-un that if it takes further action, so will we." Kim is North Korea's leader.

The resolution, supported by China, condemned a North Ko-

rean satellite launch in December that the U.S. and others say was a disguised test of banned missile technology. The resolution also toughened sanctions against Pyongyang and warned of "significant action" if it conducts a nuclear test.

North Korea, which counts China as its only major ally, subsequently announced that it will conduct its third nuclear test. South Korea's U.N. ambassador said Monday that a test "seems to be imminent."

World

Bulgaria links Hezbollah to attack on Israelis

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP)—Hezbollah was behind a bus attack that killed five Israeli tourists in Bulgaria last year, investigators said Tuesday, describing a sophisticated bombing carried out by a terrorist cell that included Canadian and Australian citizens.

The announcement brought renewed pressure on the European Union from the U.S., Israel and Canada to designate the group a terrorist organization and to crack down on its fundraising operations across Europe. The EU, which regards Hezbollah as a legitimate political organization, has resisted such a move.

Interior Minister Tsvetan Tsvetanov said two of the suspects in the July 2012 attack had been living in Lebanon for years—one with a Canadian passport and the other with an Australian one. He said investigators had traced their activities back to their home countries.

“We have well-grounded reasons to suggest that the two were members of the militant



In this Thursday, July 19, 2012 file photo, a damaged bus is transported out of Burgas airport, Bulgaria, a day after a deadly suicide attack on a bus full of Israeli vacationers.

wing of Hezbollah,” Tsvetanov said.

A third suspect entered Bulgaria with them on June 28, he said, without giving details.

Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati condemned the attack and said his country would cooperate fully.

Hezbollah, a Shiite militant

group and political party in Lebanon that emerged in response to Israel’s 1982 invasion, has been linked to attacks and kidnappings on Israeli and Jewish

interests around the world.

The group has denied involvement in the Bulgaria bombing, and Hezbollah officials in Beirut declined comment Tuesday.

The bomb exploded as the Israeli tourists were on their way from the airport to their hotel in the Black Sea resort of Burgas. The blast also killed a Bulgarian

ian bus driver and the suspected bomber, a tall and lanky pale-skinned man wearing a baseball cap and dressed like a tourist.

Although it was initially believed to be a suicide bombing, Europol Director Rob Wainwright told The Associated Press that investigators now believe the bomber never intended to die. He said a Europol expert who analyzed a fragment of a circuit board determined that the bomb was detonated remotely. He said investigators were still looking into who detonated it and how one of the suspected bombers was killed.

Bulgarian investigators found no links to Iran, which Israel had accused of playing a role in the attack.

The findings increased pressure on Europe to declare Hezbollah a terrorist organization.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the investigation “further corroboration of what we have already known, that Hezbollah and its Iranian patrons are orchestrating a worldwide campaign of terror that is spanning countries and continents.”

“We hope the Europeans learn the proper conclusions from this about the true character of Hezbollah,” Netanyahu said.

Armed gang rapes 6 Spanish tourists in Mexico

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP)—Six Spanish tourists were raped by a gang of armed, masked men in the Mexican resort of Acapulco, the latest chapter of violence that has tarnished the once-glamorous Pacific coast resort.

The vicious, hours-long attack occurred before dawn Monday at a house that six Spanish men, six Spanish women and a Mexican woman had rented on a quiet, idyllic stretch of beach on the outskirts of Acapulco.

The attackers gained access to the house because two of the Spaniards were in the yard and apparently were forced to open the door, Acapulco Mayor Luis

Walton told a news conference late Monday.

The five attackers burst into the house and held the group at gunpoint, he said. They tied up the six men with phone cords and bathing suit straps and then raped the six Spanish women. The Mexican woman was not raped.

Guerrero state Attorney General Martha Garzon said the Mexican woman begged the men not to rape her and the assailants told her they would spare her because she is Mexican.

“Fortunately we have strong evidence to lead us to those responsible for this reprehensible act,” Garzon told

Radio Formula.

The attack began about two hours after midnight Monday and the victims were only able to report the crime five hours later, at nearly seven in the morning.

“This is a regrettable situation, and of course it is going to damage Acapulco,” Walton said.

The once-glittering resort that attracted movie stars and celebrities in the 1950s and 60s has already been battered by years of drug gang killings and extortions, but except for very few incidents, the violence has not touched tourists.

Walton said he believed, but wasn’t sure, that the assailants

in Monday’s attack didn’t belong to a drug gang. Guerrero state Attorney General Martha Garzon Guzman said witness descriptions of the attackers were more difficult to obtain because they wore masks.

“From what the attorney general has told me, I don’t think this was organized crime,” Walton said. “But that will have to be investigated, we don’t know.”

Mexico’s Foreign Relations Department issued a statement saying it regretted the attack.

“Up to now, the investigations are being carried out by local authorities and they will be the ones to provide information,” the statement said.

Still, the chasm inherited from 34 years of bitter relations and the rift between overwhelmingly Sunni Egypt and Iran’s Shiite leadership were on display.

Sunni-Shiite tensions dominated talks between Ahmadinejad and Egypt’s most prominent cleric, Sheik Ahmed el-Tayeb, who upbraided the Iranian leader on a string of issues and warned against Iranian interference in Gulf nations, particularly Bahrain, where the ruling Sunni minority has faced protests by the Shiite majority.

El-Tayeb said attempts to spread Shiite Islam in mainly Sunni Arab nations were unacceptable and called for a halt to bloodshed in Syria, where Tehran’s ally Assad has been battling rebels, according to a statement by Al-Azhar about the meeting.

Iranian leader visits Egypt in warming of ties

CAIRO (AP)—President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s visit to Cairo on Tuesday, the first by an Iranian leader in more than three decades, highlights efforts by Egypt’s Islamist leader to thaw long frigid ties between the two regional heavyweights.

Although the official welcome was warm, there was unscripted discord from Sunni protesters angry over Iran’s support for the regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad, as well as decades of sectarian animosity between Shiite-led Iran and the region’s Sunni majority.

At one point, Ahmadinejad was forced to flee an ancient mosque in downtown Cairo after a Syrian protester took off his shoes and threw them at him.

Later, anti-Iranian protest-

ers raised their shoes up while blocking the main gates to Al-Azhar, the Sunni world’s most prestigious religious institution, where Egypt’s most prominent cleric chided Ahmadinejad for interfering in the affairs of Sunni nations.

The protests illustrate the limits to how far and how quickly Egypt’s Islamist President Mohammed Morsi can go in reaching out to Iran: His Sunni allies at home view mainly Shiite Iran as a bitter rival, and Cairo can’t afford to alienate Washington and Gulf Arab states who seek to isolate Tehran.

The three-day visit, centered around an Islamic summit, was an attempt by Morsi to strike an independent foreign policy and reassert Egypt’s historic re-

gional leadership role following the ouster of Hosni Mubarak, a close U.S. ally who shared Washington’s deep suspicions of Tehran. Such a visit by an Iranian leader would have been unthinkable under Mubarak.

Morsi gave Ahmadinejad a red-carpet welcome on the tarmac at Cairo airport, shaking his hand, hugging and exchanging a kiss on each cheek.

The two leaders then sat down for a 20-minute talk that focused on the civil war in Syria, security officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media. Iran is Damascus’ closest regional ally, while Egypt is among those that have called on Assad to step down.

Syrian lawmaker rejects conditions for peace talks

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—A proposal by a Syrian opposition leader for peace talks suffered two sharp blows Tuesday, with both a ruling party lawmaker and the largest bloc inside the anti-regime coalition rejecting the idea.

After 22 months and more than 60,000 dead, Syria’s crisis appears to have reached a stalemate, with neither side making significant battlefield gains likely to bring about a military victory any time soon.

The U.S. and other world powers have pushed for a negotiated solution—a bid which appeared to get a boost this week when the head of the opposition’s National Alliance said he would be willing to negotiate with certain figures from President Bashar Assad regime “who don’t have blood on their hands.”

In an interview with Al-Arabiya TV on Monday, Mouaz al-Khatib said the regime must “negotiate with the goal of removing (Assad) from power to spare bloodshed.” Khatib demanded the regime free 160,000 political prisoners and renew the passports of Syrian activists abroad.

That proposal was attacked from both the regime and the opposition on Tuesday, effectively extinguishing the first

glimmer of hope in months that the civil war can be resolved through a negotiated solution.

In Damascus, prominent Syrian Parliamentarian Fayez Sayegh told The Associated Press that any dialogue must begin without preconditions. He also called Khatib’s number of opposition supporters in Syrian custody “exaggerated,” although he did not give an alternate number.

“What is important is for Syrians to meet and agree on common ground for talks,” Sayegh said, adding that al-Khatib’s proposals, such as the prisoner release, should come “as a result of a dialogue, not before it begins.”

Human rights organizations say tens of thousands of opposition leaders, protesters and their families are being held by state security services in Syria.

Late Tuesday, the Syrian National Council, whose members make up a majority in the opposition coalition, blasted al-Khatib, calling his proposal an “individual decision” that had not been discussed or decided upon by the coalition.

It said the coalition’s founding document states that its goal is to “topple the regime and all of its symbols and pillars” and said such moves weaken the opposition.

Focus

Experts find remains of England's King Richard III

LEICESTER, England (AP)—He was king of England, but for centuries he lay without shroud or coffin in an unknown grave, and his name became a byword for villainy. On Monday, scientists announced they had rescued the remains of Richard III from anonymity—and the monarch's fans hope a revival of his reputation will soon follow.

In a dramatically orchestrated news conference, a team of archaeologists, geneticists, genealogists and other scientists from the University of Leicester announced that tests had proven what they scarcely dared to hope—a scarred and broken skeleton unearthed under a drab

monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, is distantly related to Richard, but is not a descendant.

After his death, historians writing under the victorious Tudors comprehensively trashed Richard's reputation, accusing him of myriad crimes—most famously, the murder of his two nephews, the “Princes in the Tower.”

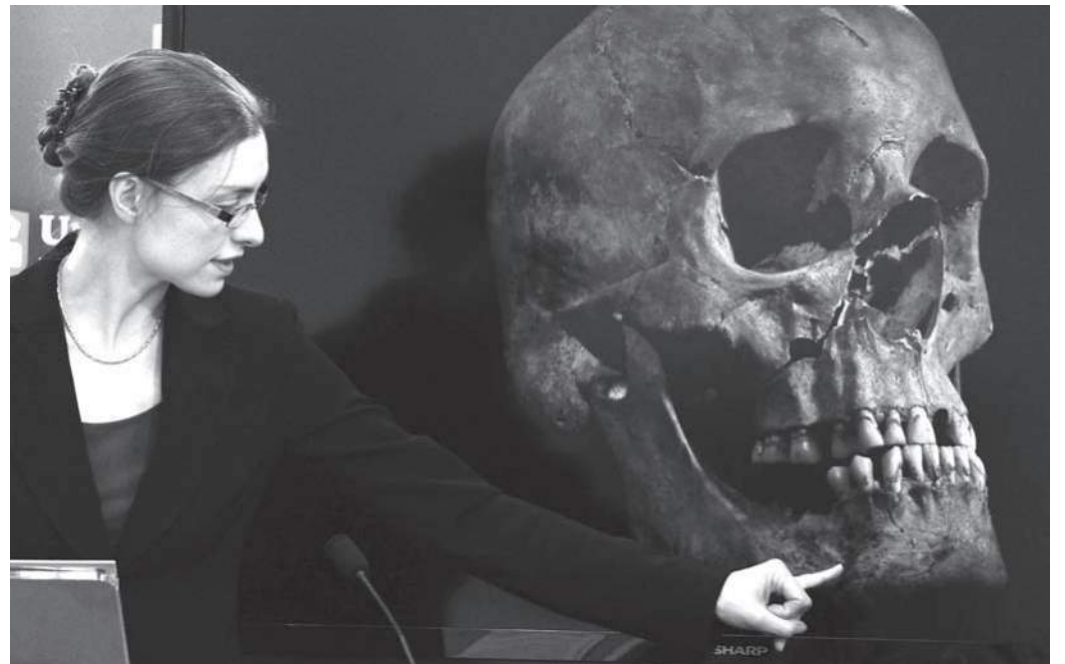
William Shakespeare indelibly depicted Richard as a hunchbacked usurper who left a trail of bodies on his way to the throne before dying in battle, shouting “My kingdom for a horse.”

That view was repeated by many historians, and Richard remains a villain in the popu-

records say he was buried by the Franciscan monks of Grey Friars at their church in Leicester, 100 miles (160 kilometers)

See EXPERTS on Next Page

Jo Appleby, a lecturer in Human Bioarchaeology, at University of Leicester, School of Archaeology and Ancient History, who led the exhumation of the remains found during a dig at a Leicester car park, speaks at the university Monday Feb. 4, 2013. AP



The king's bones

A skeleton found beneath a Leicester car park has been confirmed as that of English King Richard III.

Twisted bones

Richard III had scoliosis rather than a hunchback, which caused one shoulder to be higher than the other



Battle wounds

- Skeleton had suffered 10 injuries
- Two skull wounds were potentially fatal
- Other wounds included slashes, stabs to the face

The king

- Reigned for 26 months; one of the shortest reigns in English history
- Last English king to die in battle; killed by forces of the future Henry VII in 1485
- Given a low-key burial beneath the church of Greyfriars

Source: BBC, University of Leicester
Graphic: Melina Yingling

municipal parking lot was that of the 15th-century king, the last English monarch to die in battle.

Lead archaeologist Richard Buckley said that a battery of tests proved “beyond reasonable doubt” that the remains were the king's.

Lin Foxhall, head of the university's school of archaeology, said the discovery “could end up rewriting a little bit of history in a big way.”

Few monarchs have seen their reputations decline as much after death as Richard III. He ruled England between 1483 and 1485, during the decades-long battle over the throne known as the Wars of the Roses, which pitted two wings of the ruling Plantagenet dynasty—York and Lancaster—against one another.

His brief reign saw liberal reforms, including the introduction of the right to bail and the lifting of restrictions on books and printing presses.

But his rule was challenged, and he was defeated and killed by the army of Henry Tudor, who took the throne as King Henry VII and ended the Plantagenet line. Britain's current

lar imagination. But others say Richard's reputation was unjustly smeared by his Tudor successors.

Philippa Langley of the Richard III Society—which seeks to restore the late king's reputation and backed the search for his grave—said that for centuries Richard's story has been told by others, many of them hostile.

She hopes a new surge of interest, along with evidence from the skeleton about how the king lived and died—and how he was mistreated after death—will help restore his reputation.

“A wind of change is blowing, one that will seek out the truth about the real Richard III,” she said.

Langley, who helped launch the search for the king, said she could scarcely believe her quest had paid off.

“Everyone thought that I was mad,” she said. “It's not the easiest pitch in the world, to look for a king under a council car park.”

The location of Richard's body was unknown for centuries. He died in August 1485 at the Battle of Bosworth Field in the English Midlands, and

Dionicio Mendiola Lizama

Born: May 8, 1928

Better Known as Ta' Ichu' Batitang

was called to his eternal rest on February 01, 2013, at the age of 84. He now joins his beloved wife, Maria San Nicolas Reyes Lizama (Familián Tempu), his parents Joaquin Cruz Lizama and Carmen Mendiola Mendiola, his parents-n-law Pedro Dela Cruz Delos Reyes and Milagros Guzman San Nicolas.

He also joins his siblings and siblings-n-law:

Magdalena L./Antonio Kisa
Veronica L./Jose Camacho
Jose L./Rita Cruz Lizama
Frederico M./Ana Taimanao Lizama
Henrick M./Joaquina Villagomez Lizama
Vicenta L./Alejandro Evangelista
Regina L./Francisco Sablan
Isidro M./Ramona Cabrera Lizama
Miguel M. Lizama

Rita R./Pedro Santos
Andres SN./Juliana Taman Reyes
Pedro SN./Remedio Omar Reyes
Antonio SN./Estella Evangelista Reyes
Maria B./Antonio Camacho

He is survived by his sister Paula L. Charfarous (+Francisco Charfarous) and brother-n-law Jose SN. Reyes/Emerenciana Reyes. He leaves behind his children and spouses:

Milagro L. Muna (†Miguel T. Muna)/Chong Kwon Choi
Joaquin R./Margarita Cabrera Lizama
Carmen L./Benito S. Santos
Benedicto R./Ana Quitugua Lizama
MaryAnn L. Bulgrin (Vicente A. Leon Guerrero)/Lon Evan Bulgrin
Isidro R. (Kazuko Sasagawa Lizama)/Ruriko Shinohara Lizama

Fritz R./Ramona Cepeda Lizama
Fabiola L./Michael Laurence Rumble
Dionicio Jr. R./Jane Pangelinan Lizama
Maria Jesusa L./Mitchell Wayne Curtis
Peter R./Modesta Manglona Lizama

Close family friends and caretakers: Betty, Dennis, Richard Noni, and Danny Ibrao. He is also survived by numerous grand-children, great grand-children, great great grand-children, nieces and nephews.

Mass of Intention is being offered nightly at the San Vicente Church at 6:00 p.m. The late Dionicio M. Lizama's body will depart the CHC Chapel on February 9, 2013 at 7:30 a.m. and will proceed to San Vicente Church. Last Respects will be held from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m., and will be laid to rest at the Mt. Carmel cemetery thereafter.

**Your thoughts, prayers, and presence are greatly appreciated,
From Ta'Ichu' Batitang's Family**

Environment

Native species expected to rebound on rat-free Palmyra Atoll

Palmyra Atoll is rat-free one year after a major effort to remove these invasive predators, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, and Island Conservation announced last week.

Removing non-native rats was the top priority for the Palmyra Atoll Restoration Project, a multi-year effort to protect 10 nesting seabird species, migratory shorebirds, the rare coconut crab, and one of the largest remaining native *Pisonia grandis* forests (a rare flowering tree in the Bougainvillea family) in the tropical Pacific.

Palmyra Atoll, approxi-

mately 1,000 miles south of Honolulu, Hawaii, is cooperatively managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and The Nature Conservancy as a National Wildlife Refuge and a scientific research station. The area includes 25 islets covering 580 acres of land, and thousands of acres of healthy coral reefs. In 2009, the refuge and waters surrounding it were also included in the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument.

Non-native black rats were likely introduced to the atoll during World War II, and the population grew to as many

30,000 rats. The invasive rodents eat eggs and chicks of ground and tree-nesting birds, particularly sooty and white terns. Rats also eat land crabs and the seeds and seedlings of native tree species.

To reverse this trend, in June 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, and Island Conservation carefully and strategically implemented the removal of the destructive, non-native rats from Palmyra Atoll, using a rodenticide that had been successful in similar projects on other islands. The Palmyra project was the result

of more than seven years of planning and research to ensure that native species were not harmed during the removal, and was the first step in a longer-term effort to restore the atoll's ecological balance.

"This wonderful atoll is again able to thrive the way nature intended—without rats. Palmyra has been infested with rats for so long, there will be benefits to wildlife we didn't even fully anticipate—such as the explosion of the fiddler crab population that we're seeing," said Susan White, Monument Superintendent/Refuge Project Leader, Pacific Reefs

National Wildlife Refuge and Monuments Complex, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "Palmyra's crucial role in sus-

taining the Pacific oceanscape is solidified because of this remarkable team of exceptionally talented people." (PR)

EXPERTS

From Page 17

north of London.

The church was closed and dismantled after King Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries in 1538, and its location eventually was forgotten by most local residents.

There were tales that the king's bones had been dug up and thrown in a nearby river in the 16th century.

Then last year a team led by University of Leicester archaeologist Richard Buckley identified a possible location of the grave through map regression analysis, starting with a current map of the general area of the former church and analyzing earlier maps to discover what had changed and not changed. Ground-penetrating radar was used to find the best places to start digging.

The team began excavating in a parking lot last August. Within a week they had located thick walls and the remains of tiled floors. Soon after, they found human remains—the skeleton of an adult male who appeared to have died in battle.

He had been buried unceremoniously, with no coffin or shroud—plausible for a despised and defeated enemy.

Increasingly excited, the researchers set out to conduct a battery of scientific tests, including radiocarbon dating to determine the skeleton's age, to see whether, against the odds, they really had found the king.

They found the skeleton belonged to a man in his late 20s to late 30s who died between 1455 and 1540. Richard was 32 when he died in 1485.

Archaeological bone specialist Jo Appleby, a lecturer in human bioarchaeology at Leicester, said study of the bones provided "a highly convincing case for identification of Richard III."

Appleby said the 10 injuries to the body were inflicted by weapons such as swords, daggers and halberds and were consistent with accounts of Richard being struck down in battle—his helmet knocked from his head—before his body was stripped naked and flung over the back of a horse in disgrace.

Appleby said two of the blows to the head could have been fatal. Other scars, including a knife wound to the buttock, bore the hallmarks of "humiliation injuries" inflicted after death.

The remains also displayed signs of scoliosis, a form of spinal curvature, consistent with contemporary accounts of Rich-

ard's appearance, though not the withered arm Shakespeare describes.

DNA from the skeleton matched a sample taken from Michael Ibsen, a distant living relative of Richard's sister. The project's lead geneticist, Turi King, said Ibsen, a Canadian carpenter living in London, shares with the skeleton a rare strain of mitochondrial DNA. The same DNA group also matches a second living descendant, who wants to remain anonymous.

King said that between 1 and 2 percent of the population belongs to this genetic sub-group, so the DNA evidence is not definitive proof in itself of the skeleton's identity. But combined with the archaeological evidence, it left little doubt the skeleton belonged to Richard.

Ibsen, a 17th great-grand-nephew of Richard's older sister, said he was "stunned" by the discovery.

"It's difficult to digest," he said. Some scientists felt qualms about the haste with which the Leicester team announced its results. The findings have not been published in peer-reviewed scientific journals, though the university said they soon would be.

"It's a bizarre way of going about things," said Mark Horton, a professor of archaeology at the University of Bristol—although he said "overwhelming circumstantial evidence" identified the skeleton as Richard's.

Archaeologist Mike Pitts, editor of British Archaeology magazine, also said he found the evidence persuasive.

"I don't think there is any question. It is Richard III," said Pitts, who was not affiliated with the research team.

The discovery is a boon for the city of Leicester, which has bought a building next to the parking lot to serve as a visitor center and museum.

On Monday, the king's skeleton lay in a glass box in a meeting room within the university library. It was a browned, fragile-looking thing, its skull pocked with injuries, missing its feet—which scientists say were disturbed sometime after burial—and with a pronounced s-shape to the spine.

Soon the remains will be moved to an undisclosed secure location, and next year Richard will, at last, get a king's burial, interred with pomp and ceremony in Leicester Cathedral.

It is a day Langley, of the Richard III Society, has dreamed of seeing.

"We have searched for him, we have found him—it is now time to honor him," she said.



*In Loving Memory of
Our Dearly Beloved*

CYPRIANO KAIPAT BERKI

(Fondly known as Super/ Berki/ or Boboi)

January 17, 1966 - February 01, 2013

A retired Police Sergeant for the CNMI Police Department, a loving father, son, brother, and special friend, was called to his eternal rest by our Lord at the age of 47.

In his new life, he now joins his:

Wife: †Melva Muna Berki
Mother: †Francisca Rogolifo Kaipat-Berki
Brother: †Koby Kolonis Berki
Parents-in-law: †Merced & Jose Indalecio
 †Ramon C. Muna
 †Antonio Dlg. Aldan
 †Richard C. Mullican

His love and peaceful spirit will live on in the hearts of his:

Children: Joseph Raymond Muna Berki & Naomi Dlg. Benjamin, Jerica Renee Mullican Berki, Cypriano Kaipat Berki II
Father & Step Mother: Joseph S. (aka Kilen) & Alma Ng Berki
Loving Partner/ Special Friend: Dawn Aldan Mullican
Special Mother-in-law: Hermina A. Mullican
Brother & Sisters: Catherine Berki & Edward S. Delacruz: Ej/ Sha Delecruz (Kentucky), Patrick/ Jaylene Delacruz (Kaylene, Leo, JJ Boy) (Washington), Jason/ Leina Delacruz (Isaiah, Jaina, & Jolein) (Japan), Catherine/ Anthony Taitingfong (Ayanna, Alexis, Aleyani), Tricia Delacruz, & Fermin Delacruz & Jennifer Seman (Sadie and Damon).
Myrna B. & Karatel Phillip: Daniel, David & Jessiemae (J'Ailina, Landon, and Akayah), Yvonne & Brandon Manuel K. Berki & Fuamatala: Jonathan Daryl
Claudine Atalig & Paul K. Fital: Leodine
Lucky, Weires, Koby, & Kolonis Berki
Mariel, Maylene, & Aileen Ng
Brother/ Sisters In-Laws: Doris & Joe Pangelinan (Nicole, Gregory, Derek, & Norman Richard), Dorcia & Pete Teregeyo (JV & Kiki)

He will be greatly missed by numerous in-laws, cousins, nephews, nieces and friends.

Daily masses of intention are being offered at Saint Jude Church at 6:00pm followed immediately with holy rosary. Our Beloved Cypriano will be with us for the last time on Saturday, February 09, 2013 beginning at 8:15 am at Saint Jude Church with responso service, holy rosary and public visitation. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am followed by his interment services at Mt Carmel Cemetery.

Your thoughts and most especially your prayers are sincerely appreciated.

THE FAMILY

Life & Style

Prosecutors move to revoke Chris Brown's probation

By **ANTHONY McCARTNEY**
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Prosecutors have asked a judge to revoke Chris Brown's probation, saying there is no credible evidence he completed his community service sentence for beating Rihanna, and citing several other incidents that they say point to anger management issues.

The motion filed Tuesday by the Los Angeles County district attorney's office focuses heavily on issues with Brown's community labor in Virginia, citing numerous discrepancies and claiming the R&B singer essentially was unsupervised.

Brown's attorney Mark Gerasgos blasted the filing, telling The Associated Press that it was frivolous and defamatory and he planned to seek sanctions against prosecutors.

The prosecution's motion also notes several incidents in which Brown has lost his temper, including throwing a chair through a window after a "Good Morning America" interview in which he was asked about his beating of Rihanna on the eve of the 2009 Grammy Awards.

The report also cites Brown's Jan. 27 fight with R&B singer Frank Ocean, including Ocean's claim that Brown threatened to shoot him in the brawl over a parking space.

Sheriff's officials have said they are unlikely to seek charges against Brown for the recent fight with Ocean, since Ocean has posted online that he does not intend to seek criminal or civil penalties. Ocean told investigators that Brown shouted

that he and his entourage "can bust on you too," which authorities wrote was a street slang term for shooting someone.

Brown is due in court Wednesday for a probation hearing.

"The motion filed by the DA's office is shameful and a disgrace," Gerasgos said. "In essence, it calls everyone a liar in the Richmond Police Department and the Virginia Probation Department."

He claimed prosecutors ig-

nored interviews "where sworn peace officers stated unequivocally that Mr. Brown was supervised and did all of the community service."

"I plan on asking for sanctions from the DA's office for filing in frivolous, scurrilous and frankly defamatory motion," he said. A spokeswoman for the district attorney's office declined to comment on Gerasgos' statements.

Brown's time serving community service in Virginia has been under scrutiny for months, and Tuesday's mo-

tion asked a judge to order the singer to repeat his entire 180-day service sentence in Los Angeles. Brown had been given permission to perform cleanup and manual labor duties in Virginia, but LA prosecution investigators found no evidence that he completed his work as ordered.

Richmond, Virginia, Police Chief Bryan Norwood was supposed to be supervising Brown and submitted paperwork last year indicating the singer had completed his sentence. But prosecutors cite numerous

shortcomings and possible misstatements in those records, which show the singer performing double shifts in the city and at a day care center where his mother once worked.

"This inquiry provided no credible, competent or verifiable evidence that defendant Brown performed his community labor as presented to this court," Deputy District Attorney Mary Murray wrote.

The records submitted by Norwood are "at best sloppy documentation and at worst fraudulent reporting."

CHART TOPPERS

The top 10 songs and albums on the iTunes Store for the week ending Feb. 4, 2013:

TOP SONGS

1. "Thrift Shop (feat. Wanz)," Ryan Lewis, Macklemore
2. "Scream & Shout (feat. Britney Spears)," will.i.am
3. "I Knew You Were Trouble," Taylor Swift
4. "Don't You Worry Child (Radio Edit) (feat. John Martin)," Swedish House Mafia
5. "Ho Hey," The Lumineers
6. "Love Me (feat. Drake & Future)," Lil Wayne
7. "When I Was Your Man," Bruno Mars
8. "Locked Out of Heaven," Bruno Mars
9. "Daylight," Maroon 5
10. "Suit & Tie (feat. JAY Z)," Justin Timberlake

TOP ALBUMS

1. "Believe Acoustic," Justin Bieber
2. "Pitch Perfect (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)," Various Artists
3. "Heartthrob," Tegan and Sara
4. "The Lumineers," The Lumineers
5. "The Heist," Ryan Lewis, Macklemore
6. "Hummingbird," Local Natives
7. "Unorthodox Jukebox," Bruno Mars
8. "A Messenger," Colton Dixon
9. "LONG.LIVE.A\$AP," A\$AP Rocky
10. "Babel," Mumford & Sons

The top iPhone and iPad apps on App Store for the week ending Feb. 4, 2013:

TOP PAID IPHONE APPS

1. WhatsApp Messenger (WhatsApp Inc.)
2. Minecraft - Pocket Edition (Mojang)
3. CraftedBattle (C-Apps)
4. Angry Birds Star Wars (Rovio Entertainment Ltd)
5. Plague Inc. (Ndemic Creations)
6. Wood Camera - Vintage Photo Editor (Bright Mango)
7. Banana Kong (FDG

- Entertainment)
8. Earn to Die (Not Doppler)
9. Fruit Ninja (Halfbrick Studios)
10. Sleep Cycle alarm clock (Maciek Drejak Labs)

TOP FREE IPHONE APPS

1. Temple Run 2 (Imangi Studios, LLC)
2. What's the Word? - new quiz with pics and words (RedSpell)
3. Ruzzle (MAG Interactive)
4. YouTube (Google, Inc.)
5. Google Maps (Google, Inc.)
6. Subway Surfers (Kiloo)
7. Candy Crush Saga (King.com Limited)
8. EDGE Extended (Mobigame)
9. Facebook (Facebook, Inc.)
10. Fun Run - Multiplayer Race (dirtyBit)

TOP PAID IPAD APPS

1. Minecraft - Pocket Edition (Mojang)
2. Banana Kong (FDG Entertainment)
3. Angry Birds Star Wars HD (Rovio Entertainment Ltd)
4. Pages (Apple)
5. CraftedBattle (C-Apps)
6. Little Inferno (Experimental Gameplay Group)
7. Notability - Take Notes & Annotate PDFs with Dropbox & Google Drive Sync (Ginger Labs)
8. Bad Piggies HD (Rovio Entertainment Ltd)
9. Temple Run: Brave (Disney)
10. Scribble Hero (Nickelodeon)

TOP FREE IPAD APPS

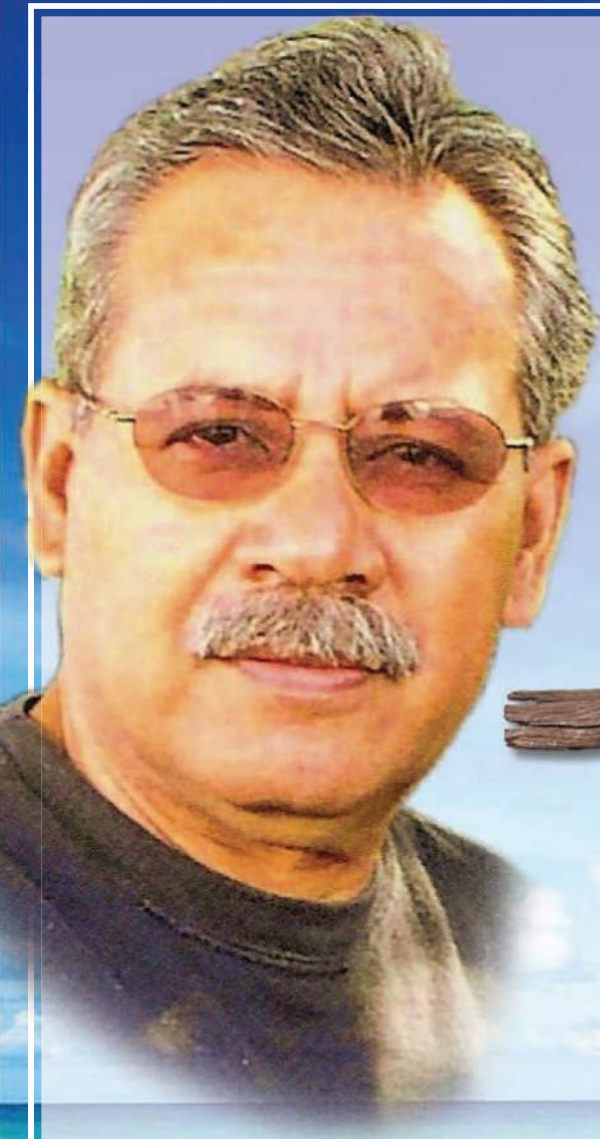
1. Temple Run 2 (Imangi Studios, LLC)
2. What's the Word HD (RedSpell)
3. YouTube (Google, Inc.)
4. Ghostbusters (Beeline Interactive, Inc.)
5. Calculator for iPad Free (International Travel Weather Calculator)
6. Early Bird HD (Booyah, Inc.)
7. Penultimate (Evernote)
8. Candy Crush Saga (King.com Limited)
9. Skype for iPad (Skype Communications S.a.r.l)
10. MyScript Calculator (Vision Objects)

In Our Lord's Care

† DR. ISAMU JOE ABRAHAM

Affectionately known as "Sam" or "Doc"

Of Fina Sisu, Saipan was born December 15, 1944 on Lelu, Kosrae.
He passed away on January 31, 2013.



In his new life, Isamu will be reunited with his:
Father: Josiah Abraham Salik
Mother: Sepe Josiah Salik
Step-Mother: Johanna Weilbacher Salik
Father-in-law: Francisco Sablan Pangelinan
Mother-in-law: Dolores Ito Pangelinan
Step-Sister: Cecilia Weilbacher Smith
Brother: Antonio "Otto" W. Abraham
Brothers-in-law: Felix Francisco I. and Esteban I. Pangelinan
Sister-in-law: Sra Abraham
Nephew: Carlos Patrick Pangelinan Camacho

Isamu's memories will live in the hearts of his:
Wife and Best Friend: Felicitas "Tee" Pangelinan Abraham
Children: Lisa Kimberly A. Rengechel/Joe and children; Joanna Dolores "Jody" P. Abraham; Jon Christopher P. Abraham; Michelle Kerin A. Scholz/Justin
Siblings: Gloria A. Nedlic/Nores; Justina A. Olter/Wilson; Richard Josiah Abraham; Mary A. Simmering/Robert Joseph; Adelita A. Palik/Aren; Francisco "Leehastig" W. Abraham/Namiko; Lucy W. Abraham; Edward W. Abraham/Welsihner; Linda W. Abraham
Siblings-in-law: Joaquin "Mitch" I. Pangelinan/Carmen T. Cabrera; Asuncion "Connie" P. Pangelinan; Delgadina P. Zabetakis/Nick; Joseph I. Pangelinan/Maria "Frica"; Lourdes "Winnie" P. Camacho/Carlos; Kenneth I. Pangelinan; Francisca S. Pangelinan; Meriam N. Abraham
Godchildren: Janel Nicole Rabago Deleon Guerrero, Benjamin Jones Castro, Melvia Kenye Celis Aaron, LaDonna C. Sablan

On **Friday, February 8, 2013**, Isamu's remains will be escorted from the Borja Funeral Home to Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 9:15 a.m. Responso and visitation to pay last respect will begin at 9:30 a.m. Christian Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 11:30 a.m.

Your thoughts and prayers are sincerely appreciated.

Thank You, Kulo Mulalap, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Domo Arigato Gozaimasu.

**Felicitas "Tee" Pangelinan Abraham,
Children and Family**

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Friday, Feb. 1st through Thursday, Feb. 7th, 2013

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Warm Bodies

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:50
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Mon through Thurs		4:15	7:15	

Cast: Nicholas Hoult, Teresa Palmer, John Malkovich
Genre: Romance, Horror • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

A tormented zombie (Nicholas Hoult) experiences a profound transformation after entering into an unusual relationship with the daughter (Teresa Palmer) of a military leader charged with eradicating the walking dead. As the unlikely pair build a tenuous bridge between the living and the dead, those on both sides of the battle begin to sense that nothing in their world will ever be the same again. Warm Bodies is based on the novel by Isaac Marion. Rob Corddry and John Malkovich round out the starring cast.



Bullet to the Head

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:30
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:30
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Mon through Thurs		4:20	7:20	

Cast: Sylvester Stallone, Kang Sung, Sarah Shahi
Genre: Action • Rated R

Synopsis

A hitman (Sylvester Stallone) and a cop (Kang Sung) team up to pay back the killers who murdered their old partners in this action thriller from veteran tough guy filmmaker, Walter Hill (48 Hours, The Warriors).



Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D

Friday		7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:25	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:25	7:25	
Mon through Thurs		7:25	

Cast: Jeremy Renner, Gemma Arterton, Famke Janssen
Genre: Adventure • Rated R

Synopsis

Jeremy Renner and Gemma Arterton reimagine Hansel and Gretel grown-up as bounty hunters in this Paramount Pictures production. Will Ferrell's Gary Sanchez Prods. produces, with Dead Snow's Tommy Wirkola directing from a script by D.W. Harper. Famke Janssen co-stars.



Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters 2D

Friday		4:25	
Saturday		4:25	
Sunday		4:25	
Mon through Thurs		4:25	

Cast: Jeremy Renner, Gemma Arterton, Famke Janssen
Genre: Adventure • Rated R



Lincoln

Friday		4:00	7:00	10:00
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	10:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Mon through Thurs		4:00	7:00	

Cast: Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field, David Strathairn
Genre: Drama • Rated PG 13



Mama

Friday		4:30	7:30	9:45
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:45
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Mon through Thurs		4:30	7:30	

Cast: Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, Jessica Chastain
Genre: Horror • Rated PG 13



Broken City

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Mon through Thurs		4:10	7:10	

Cast: Mark Wahlberg, Russell Crowe, Catherine Zeta-Jones
Genre: Drama • Rated R



The Last Stand

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Mon through Thurs		4:05	7:05	

Cast: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Forest Whitaker
Genre: Action • Rated R

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Q&A: Josh Groban sings about love lost—again

By MESFIN FEKADU
AP MUSIC WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Josh Groban enjoyed singing sad songs about a breakup on his last album, 2010's Rick Rubin-produced "Illuminations." So when the singer started recording his latest album, which is about another breakup, he changed his approach.

"I'm in a different place, different mindset and the same thing goes—but I wanted the record to feel more energetic, more dynamic, more positive, more rhythmic and uplifting," he said.

"The last record, I was very proud of it, and it was a good record, but it was sad," he continued. "I was in a very, very tough place. I was going through a lot of changes in my life. I had gone through a really bad breakup. ... It felt like I was getting a lot of it out of my system lyrically and musically, so it was a little bit of a sadder record."

Groban doesn't have Rubin by his side on "All That Echoes," out this week. Instead, he's got Warner Bros. Records chairman and Green Day producer Rob Cavallo.

"For a guy who's at the top of the label chain to also say, 'Let's take chances and let's make music that just makes us feel really, really good' was so impressive to me," Groban said of Cavallo, who has also produced records for the Goo Goo Dolls, My Chemical Romance and Paramore.

Groban, who turns 32 this

month, isn't just building his musical resume: He'll star as a failed rock band member working as a barista in the upcoming CollegeHumor indie comedy "Coffee Town," written and directed by "Arrested Development" writer Brad Copeland. The film will be released this year.

The singer talked about "Coffee Town," singing about relationships, album sales and more in a recent interview.

AP: You cover Stevie Wonder's "I Believe (When I Fall in Love It Will Be Forever)" on the album. How'd that come about?

Groban: The reason I think people relate to Stevie Wonder's love songs is because they really, truly, genuinely make you feel the way you feel, the way love is. Sometimes it's just "I Just Called to Say I Love You" and it's really as simple and cheesy as that. And sometimes it's a song like "I Believe," which we close the album with, which is that my past has been crap. I've missed the mark. I admit it. I'm not perfect. But when love comes my way again, kick up the gospel choir because I'm not going to let it go. ... That's where I am right now, which is that when it comes along again, I'll be there to grab it.

AP: Is it easy singing about your breakup?

Groban: You're exorcising the demons a little bit when you sing about love lost and the

things that didn't quite work out. But you learn from that and you grow from that, and there's often times great art from that. My voice does sad really well, so I think selfishly sometimes it's more fun to sing the sadder songs just because sometimes the sadder melodies are the most beautiful.

AP: You were 20 when you released your debut in 2001. What's it like to think about that time as you reflect on your life?

Groban: I was blissfully naive. I'll tell you, when I was 17 and signed, on the one hand I kind of missed out on having a pretty raucous college experience, where I could wake up on the bathroom floor and say, "All right, not doing that again." ... If I could go back and talk to that kid though, I would just tell him to just chill out a little bit. I was just nervous as all hell. I was really worried a lot. I was anxious a lot.

AP: Your last album went platinum, selling 1 million units, but most of your records have sold 5 million units each. Do you think about record sales a lot?

Groban: I'd be lying if I said that it wasn't important. It's your ticket to make the next record and I want to keep doing what I'm doing. But mostly it's the validation that you've done something that people want to have and own.

AP: What was it like work-

ing with Rob Cavallo compared with Rick Rubin?

Groban: Rob was a great change of pace in a certain way because he likes to work very much based on riding a wave of energy when it's there, which is pretty compatible with how I like to work. ... And whenever I would have doubts (like), "I don't know if this is my wheelhouse" or "I don't know if this is right for my voice," he'd be great at saying, "I don't know if you should sing that" or most of the time saying, "Well, shoot, let's expand what your wheelhouse is."

AP: You're building your acting reel. What's that been like?

Groban: It's great to let out that other side because the music side is so serious that to be able to have an outlet for your funny bone, for your weird, oddball side is just cathartic for me. And it's actually what I started doing. I was in improv theater before I even started singing, so the fact that the comedy side is starting to work its way around in my world strangely, considering the kind of music I sing, I'll take it. It's wonderful.

AP: Do you want to play a serious role?

Groban: Yeah, sure. I think I'm probably better at comedy, but comedians take serious roles sometimes and it actually goes really well. ... I'd love to play a bad guy actually. I'd love to dive in and play some kind of French assassin, like "The Professional."

Connecticut kids to be featured on Grammy preshow

By PAT EATON-ROBB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A group of children from Newtown, Connecticut who recently recorded a version of "Over the Rainbow" are preparing for a live appearance during the E! Network's Grammy Awards preshow on Sunday.

The group of 21 kids, some of whom attend Sandy Hook Elementary School, recorded "Over the Rainbow" last month with singer-songwriter Ingrid Michaelson at the Fairfield, Connecticut, home of Chris Frantz and Tina Weymouth, two former members of the Talking Heads and Tom Tom Club rock bands.

"American Idol" host Ryan Seacrest will be flying a crew to Connecticut and plans to interview the children via satellite during the E!'s "Live From the Red Carpet" preshow, said Tim Hayes, who co-produced the recording.

The children also will be singing Carly Rae Jepsen's hit song, "Call Me Maybe," he said.

Sabrina Post, who runs a performing arts school in Newtown and directs the group, said the kids wanted to do something with their talent to honor their friends and



Ingrid Michaelson accompanied by children from Newtown, Conn. and Sandy Hook Elementary school perform "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" on ABC's "Good Morning America" on Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2013 in New York.
AP

neighbors who died in the Dec. 14 massacre at the school, and help the community heal.

"This opportunity to do something positive lets the kids know that although a lot of things happen in our world that are not pleasant, like this that happened with us in Newtown, there are many giving people and wonderful things that can come out of life, so don't get discouraged," she said. "It teaches them to use their gifts to work through things."

The children also have sung the song on ABC's Good Morning America and at a benefit concert that featured

artists such as Paul Simon and Johnny Winter. Some of them are also appearing on Katie Couric's syndicated show this month, Hayes said.

He said they have no plans to record anything else, or have the kids make any more public appearances.

"We know the kids involved have had a wonderful experience, but we think this chapter is now done, and we want these kids to get back to being kids," he said.

Copies of their version of "Over the Rainbow" are being sold on Amazon and iTunes.

The proceeds from the down-

load of the single benefit the United Way of Western Connecticut and the Newtown Youth Academy. The nonprofit sports center opened free programs to Newtown children after the shooting and hopes to expand free programming.

The Grammy performance follows Sunday's appearance by another group of Newtown children at the Super Bowl.

Jennifer Hudson joined a chorus from Sandy Hook Elementary School to sing "America the Beautiful" before the game. The emotional performance had some players on the sideline on the verge of tears.

A Grammy maybe? Carly Rae Jepsen heads for gold

NEW YORK (AP)—Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe" became the soundtrack for endless viral online fun last year: U.S. infantry soldiers lip-synched to it in Afghanistan's Kunar Province. So did James Franco and the U.S. Olympic swim team. Models from Abercrombie & Fitch showed off their abs to it, as did hair-whipping Miami Dolphins cheerleaders. Dogs have barked the whole song. Parodies of it have been parodied.

Fellow singers from Katy Perry to Selena Gomez embraced the pop goodness.

Even the Cookie Monster jumped on the "Call Me Maybe" train.

The song put 27-year-old Jepsen, who finished third on a season of "Canadian Idol," in the spotlight and on a path to potential Grammy gold. The monster hit is nominated for song of the year and best pop vocal performance at the Feb. 10 awards show.

"I was gunning maybe for Top 10 on iTunes. That was my little, mini secret goal," she said recently by phone from Los Angeles, where she was picking out a dress to wear to the Grammys, where she'll also present an award.

The song had a nine week-arc on top of the Billboard Hot 100 chart and has sold more than



This Nov. 18, 2012 file photo shows Carly Rae Jepsen performing at the 40th Annual American Music Awards in Los Angeles.

6.7 million tracks in the United States, according to Nielsen SoundScan. The only thing Jepsen hasn't been able to do is have album sales that match her

powerful single. She put out the CD "Kiss" last September, but despite a hit second single—the double platinum "Good Time" with Owl City—the album has

sold only 226,000 copies.

"I think with (a) song being as big as 'Call Me Maybe,' there's always that challenge of how do we push past that and show people that there is more to offer," she said. "I'm confident whether it's with this album or the next, I'll be able to prove that."

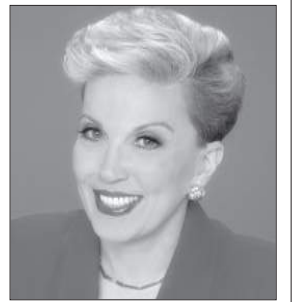
Gary Trust, an associate director and columnist at Billboard, says sales faced an uphill battle since pop these days is a singles medium, not album-orientated.

"She might have been able to sell more if they were able to put the album out quicker," he said of "Kiss," which arrived five months after her smash song was released. "But I think, no matter what, the song was going to outsell any album she could put out."

The song, which Jepsen co-wrote with guitarist Tavish Crowe and Marianas Trench lead singer Josh Ramsay, will compete in the song of the year category at the Grammys with No. 1 hits from fun. and Kelly Clarkson, as well as critically acclaimed tunes from U.K. singer Ed Sheeran and R&B performer Miguel. A year ago, before her breakthrough on the music charts, Jepsen was like everyone else: looking forward to a good awards show on TV.

Readers warn teen to avoid becoming a parent too soon

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for the compassion you showed "Wants to Be a Mom" (Nov. 24), the 15-year-old girl considering motherhood with her almost 18-year-old boyfriend. Having lost her dad at an early age and having a mother who prefers drugs over her daughter, must have made this young lady feel very unwanted. I understand why she might think a baby would give her the love she's missing.

I applaud you for not judging her, but instead kindly helping her to understand the consequences of her potential actions. I wish her the best and hope she'll have the wisdom to realize how important an education will be for her future. With luck, in a few years she'll be a young adult ready to assume the responsibilities of being a parent.

LINDA IN MICHIGAN

DEAR LINDA: "Wants" was smart to write for advice before acting on impulse. She deserved a thoughtful response and not just a reprimand. Readers had much to say about her letter:

DEAR ABBY: At 15, I had the first of my five daughters. By the time I was 20, I was raising the babies by myself. Would I do it all over again? Not in this lifetime!

"Wants," your boyfriend is immature. He should finish school and get a job before thinking about children. You are only 15 and have your best years ahead. One thing that never crossed MY mind was how I would be able to support my child without an education. I learned the hard way.

If you and your grandma aren't getting along, it's up to you to change your attitude. Grandma has more experience than you do in this world. Listening to her will help you avoid many of the pitfalls that I went through, and that you face presently.

WAS THERE ONCE IN WASHINGTON

DEAR ABBY: I had my first child at 21, and while I love my son there are times I wish I would have waited a while. I missed out on college and figuring out who I was and what I wanted to do. My son and daughter turned out to have special needs, so my life has been busy taking care of them. Please tell that teen that having a baby is not at all like it is in TV commercials.

MARIA IN ILLINOIS

DEAR ABBY: A mentor to teen boys told me that some of them deliberately try to impregnate girls so they'll have a "trophy" of how manly and virile they are. The more babies they help conceive, especially without having to be responsible for them, the more bragging can go on in the locker room. Every parent needs to know this behavior is going on. Some of these boys have punched holes in condoms and convinced a reticent girl to have sex—then laughed at her and dumped her when she became pregnant.

NURSING SCHOOL STUDENT IN WISCONSIN

DEAR ABBY: That 15-year-old's boyfriend's desire for her to have a baby seems like a control issue to me, and it will set the tone for their relationship. She needs to say no or she will most likely be under his power for the foreseeable future. I have seen this happen too many times with high school girls.

FORMER TEACHER IN THE NORTHWEST

DEAR ABBY: Some states will accuse the young man of statutory rape, and he could end up in jail and be branded a sex offender for life. And the girl will wind up with a baby, no education and no husband to help her. Children have no business having children.

FLORIDA READER

DEAR ABBY: Tell that girl and her boyfriend that if they want a baby, they must support that baby on their own. Those of us who are working and raising families are tired of entitlements the young ones count on for support. Life is hard. It's expensive. And it is about more than what you "want" on a whim.

KATHY IN THE MIDWEST

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Picasso portrait fetches near \$45M at auction

LONDON (AP)—A Picasso painting of his muse has fetched 28.6 million pounds (\$44.9 million) at a London auction.

The 1932 work, "Femme Assise Pres d'une Fenetre (Woman Sitting Near a Window)," is a portrait of the artist's "golden muse," Marie-Therese Walter.

Picasso first met his muse in Paris in 1927, when she was 17 years old, and the pair subsequently became lovers.

Helena Newman, who heads Sotheby's Impressionist and Modern Art department in Europe, called the painting a "stunning and monumental portrait" from one of the most celebrated periods

in Picasso's life.

She added Tuesday that there has been a strong market for Picasso's portraits of Walter among collectors in recent years. Another portrait, "La Lecture," sold for 25 million pounds in 2011, double its pre-sale estimate.

In this Jan. 31, 2013 file photo, an expert from Sotheby's auction house gestures as he describes a 1932 painting by Pablo Picasso entitled "Femme Assise Pres d'une Fenetre" (Woman Sitting Near a Window), at Sotheby's auction house during a press preview in London.

AP



Disney working on stand-alone 'Star Wars' films

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Disney is mining The Force for even more new films.

Walt Disney Co. CEO Bob Iger said Tuesday that screenwriters Larry Kasdan and Simon Kinberg are working on stand-alone "Star Wars" movies that aren't part of the new trilogy that's in the works.

"There has been speculation about some standalone films that have been in development, and I can confirm to you today that in fact we are working on a few stand-alone films," Iger told CNBC.



Iger

Iger said the movies would be based on "great 'Star Wars' characters that are not part of the overall saga." The films would be released during the six-year period of the new trilogy, which starts in 2015 with

"Star Wars: Episode VII."

Disney confirmed last month that "Star Trek" director J.J. Abrams will direct the seventh installment of the "Star Wars" saga.

Disney bought "Star Wars" maker Lucasfilm last year for more than \$4 billion.

The last "Star Wars" trilogy, a prequel to the original films, was released from 1999 to 2005.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

SI shoots on 7 continents for swimsuit issue

NEW YORK (AP)—Few would think about swimming in Antarctica, but Sports Illustrated took its models there for its annual swimsuit issue—shooting on all seven continents for the first time. The around-the-globe effort will be chronicled by the Travel Channel in a special on Feb. 17. Sports Illustrated said Tuesday it's the first to do a fashion shoot in Antarctica, where temperatures were subfreezing. Among the locations featured are Namibia, China, Australia and Easter Island, one of the most remote places

on Earth. Swimsuit magazine editor MJ Day says it took seven months to complete. Sports Illustrated will reveal its cover Monday. It can be a star-making opportunity. Last year's cover model was Kate Upton. The magazine hits newsstands Feb. 12.

Skater Oksana Baiul sues NBC, producer for \$5M

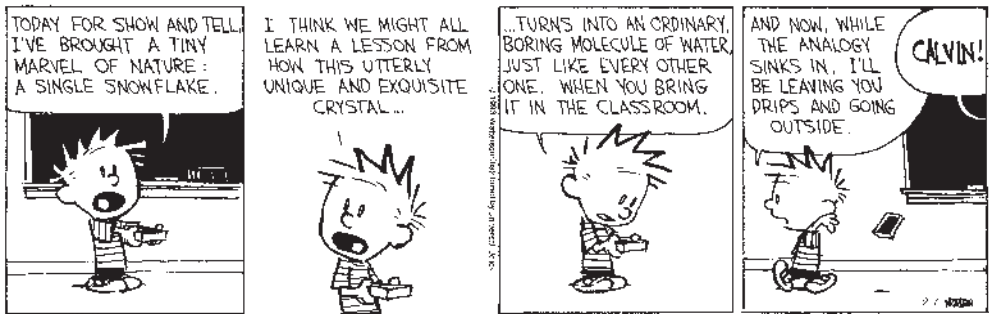
NEW YORK (AP)—Figure skater Oksana Baiul is suing NBC Universal and a television skating program producer. The 1994 Olympic gold medalist says Disson Skating LLC offered Baiul a deal to

perform in two shows that were to air on NBC. The Manhattan lawsuit says Baiul declined, never receiving a contract or signing a promotional deal. Nevertheless, she says her name and likeness were used to advertise the show on two radio websites. She says she also was named in a press release for the show, which included music performed by Kenny G. The skater says her reputation was damaged because the incorrect publicity resulted in her being labeled a "no show," making it harder to get work. She's seeking \$5 million in damages. NBC and the producer declined to comment.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



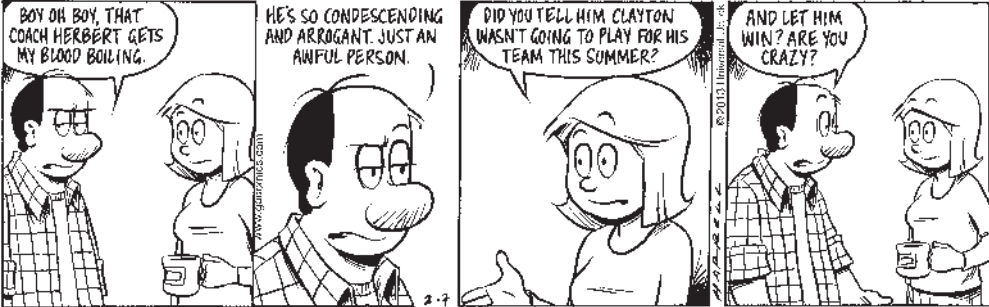
Garfield®

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ACROSS

1 Edinburgh resident

5 Letterman's network

8 Tibetan priest

12 Unaccompanied

13 Illustrations

14 Acknowledge

15 Feedback contents

16 Neither partner

17 Transaction

18 Sloshed

20 Portent

22 What Sedaka said was "hard to do"

26 Side road

29 Tex-cuisine

30 Historic time

31 "So be it"

32 Dr.'s study

33 Work units

34 Hockey venue

35 Author Fleming

36 Beginning

37 Recording

40 Sea eagle

41 Humans

45 Short skirt

47 Trawler need

49 Sailor's jail

50 Probability

51 Mai (cocktail)

52 Protracted

53 Swanky

54 Curved line

55 Rams' mates

DOWN

1 No neatnik

2 Furnace fuel

3 Aware of

4 "No nukes" agreement

5 Hiawatha's transport

6 Buddy

7 Caressed

8 Burdened

9 Comic-book team, with "The"

10 Extinct bird

11 Piercing tool

19 Attempt

21 Blend

23 Alter a text

24 Incite

25 History

26 Fisherman's supply

27 Village People hit

28 Saturdays and Sundays

32 Purplish-red

33 Dignify

35 Hostel

36 Have bills

38 Hibernian

39 Eye-related

42 Front of a ship

43 Profession

44 Omelet basis

45 Swab

46 Altar affirmative

48 Corn spike

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 2-7

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ashton Kutcher, 35; Chris Rock, 48; Garth Brooks, 51; James Spader, 53

Happy Birthday: Do what you can for others. This is a take-charge year filled with options and opportunities. The more you contribute to the well being of your community, workplace or your family, the more respect you will gain and the easier it will be to get your own way. Think ahead and you will be victorious. Your numbers are 6, 17, 19, 23, 26, 34, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): An emotional situation will entice you to say something that will make matters worse. Bide your time, focus on a creative endeavor, and do your best to keep the peace with people you deal with daily. Let past experience be your lesson.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Engage in discussions with people you can share information with and you will stumble upon a way to make a difference. Don't let a partner limit what you can do or put pressure on you to go in a direction you don't agree with.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Concentrate on what you have and how you can make it grow—or at least maintain what you've got. Making personal changes that will enhance your outlook or your appearance will lead to interesting new acquaintances. Love is highlighted.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Speak up and take action and you can make a difference. A partnership will take an unusual turn toward greater stability. Travel to

a destination that will motivate you to follow through with a plan.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Added responsibilities will surface. The way you handle your personal and financial life will set the stage for what's to come. Creative accounting and building up your assets should be your first choice. Partnership opportunities should be considered.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Discuss your ideas and plans with peers and do whatever you can to position yourself for future advancement. An unusual investment or trendy idea will pay off as long as you avoid overdoing and overspending. A challenge will entice you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Change will catch you by surprise. Don't lose sight of your dreams, hopes and wishes just because someone has a change of heart or plans. Secure your position by socializing with people who can help you excel.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put your skills to the test. Don't let a relationship come between you and your goals. Making simple yet unique changes at home will help you embrace new ways of doing daily tasks. Stand up and make demands and you'll get your way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't be fooled by a big talker who makes empty promises. Trust in your talent and ability to do things on your own. You don't need a partner taking advantage of your

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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good nature or your skills. Focus on love, not work.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Revisit a plan and find a way to make it successful. Mixing the old with the new will bring back old memories and reconnect you to people from your past. Listen to what others say, but follow your own path. Limit spending.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Discretion will be necessary when dealing with people from different backgrounds. Indulge in something new, but don't forget where you come from and what works best for you. Protect your health and your heart.

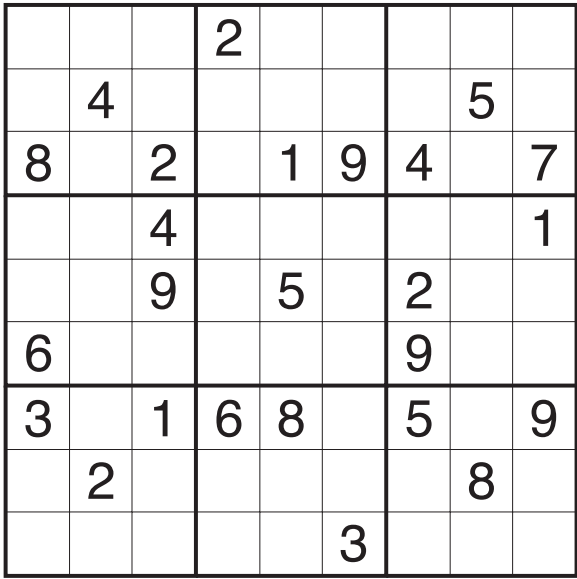
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't look back. Focus on what must be done and move swiftly. If you slow down or let uncertainty take over, you will lose ground and be faced with opposition. Don't let shortsightedness lead to a costly mishap. Cover your back.

Birthday Baby: You are diligent, progressive, outgoing and willing to make sacrifices. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



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Short-handed Lakers beat Nets, 92-83



NEW YORK (AP)—Kobe Bryant would have liked to celebrate more, maybe gloat about that highlight-reel dunk, but there were bigger concerns.

Dwight Howard couldn't start and Pau Gasol couldn't finish. And in this difficult season for the Los Angeles Lakers, even the victories seem to come with losses.

"It feels good to pull out a win like this, but now reality kind of sets in," Bryant said. "If Pau can't go and Dwight can't go, we have to figure some things out."

Bryant had 21 points and eight rebounds, and the Lakers overcame the absences of Howard and Metta World Peace, and the loss of Gasol to beat the Brooklyn Nets 92-83 on Tuesday night.

Antawn Jamison, starting for the suspended World Peace, made the go-ahead basket during a closing 14-3 run for the Lakers, who have won three straight and six of their last seven games.

Howard missed his third consecutive game with a torn labrum in his right shoulder and Gasol, his replacement, said he felt a pop in his right foot when he went down with a little more than 4 minutes remaining. He was examined by Nets doctors and diagnosed with a strained plantar fascia, and will undergo an MRI exam Wednesday in Boston.

"I had fasciitis and I had been dealing with it for a couple of months now, but I didn't feel anything like I did tonight," Gasol said.

Brook Lopez capitalized on the Lakers' center woes to finish with 30 points and 11 rebounds, but he was the Nets' only offense down the stretch in their fourth loss in six games.

Steve Nash had 17 points and eight assists, and Earl Clark added 14 points and 12 rebounds for the Lakers, who beat the Nets for the 10th straight time. Gasol scored 15 points.

The Lakers improved to 3-0



Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant, center, slams the ball between Brooklyn Nets' Kris Humphries, left, and Gerald Wallace during the second half of the NBA basketball game at the Barclays Center Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013 in New York.

on the road in February after going 0-7 in January, seizing control in the final minutes without many of the players who were expected to make them a top contender this season.

Bryant's attacking drive and slam between Gerald Wallace and Kris Humphries snapped an 80-all tie, the play that had Barclays Center buzzing in his first trip to an arena that was filled with plenty of Lakers' gold and purple.

"I was pretty shocked that the lane was so wide open," Bryant said. "I think everybody's been drinking the Kobe pass Kool-Aid, so everybody kind of stayed on the perimeter on the shooters and it just parted like the Red Sea. So I felt a little like Moses."

Battling recent elbow pain, Bryant said his arm hurt a bit after the play but he was forced to ignore it.

"After a play like that, you really can't grab your arm, it messes up the swag of the moment," he said. "So you've got to kind

of suck it up for a while."

Lopez answered quickly with a three-point play to give the Nets their last lead with 2:33 to play. Jamison scored on a pick-and-roll, Bryant drove for another basket and Clark hit a jumper to give the Lakers an 88-83 lead with 1:11 remaining. The Nets couldn't score again, and Nash closed it out with four free throws.

Lopez blamed himself for poor decisions on offense and bad defense on the pick-and-roll down the stretch.

"To their credit they closed out the game well, but I just feel those 2 1/2 minutes are about as bad as I played on both ends of the floor all season," Lopez said.

The NBA penalized World Peace for grabbing the Pistons' Brandon Knight around the neck and striking him in the jaw with the knuckles of his mostly open hand on Sunday with 1:43 left in the first half of the Lakers' 98-97 win. The former Ron Artest has been in trouble

with the league throughout his career, and Lakers coach Mike D'Antoni, while not disputing the suspension, said he assumed World Peace's history played a role in the league's decision.

The decision on Howard's status belonged to the center, and it was revealed under unusual circumstances.

In what's been a strange and stormy season for the Lakers, D'Antoni pronounced Howard doubtful at the morning shoot-around, either unaware that Howard had already decided he wouldn't play or unwilling to announce it. Howard spoke to reporters just minutes later, ruling himself out.

That freed things up a starting spot for Gasol, one of the top big men in the world but struggling to find his way in D'Antoni's offense and Howard's shadow. He hurt his right foot while defending Lopez with 4:21 remaining, falling to the court without noticeable contact. He stayed in the game after getting attended to by the trainer, but then had

to ask out shortly after and returned to the locker room.

"Hopefully we'll get Dwight back pretty soon and then hopefully Pau's not too bad," D'Antoni said. "If not, we'll play."

Deron Williams scored 11 of his 15 points in the first quarter, helping the Nets to a 24-18 lead. The Nets missed a chance to open things up early in the second against the Lakers' depleted second unit, then Los Angeles surged ahead once its starters returned.

Bryant's follow shot capped a run of eight straight points as the Lakers grabbed a 49-37 advantage with 10.4 seconds to play in the half. Mirza Teletovic followed with a 3-pointer to make it a nine-point game at the break.

"I thought we came out really well in that first quarter and then in the second quarter things kind of went south," Williams said. "I don't know why, I thought we were ready for this game, but proven wrong tonight."

Much of the trade focus around Howard during his final season in Orlando centered on the Nets, one of the teams his agent was permitted to negotiate with and the one that was believed to be Howard's preference. The Nets could never put together an attractive enough package and they're happy now with Lopez, headed to his first All-Star game next week.

He scored 12 in the final period, but the Nets had only seven other points.

Pacers 114, Hawks 103

In Indianapolis, Paul George scored 29 points to lead Indiana to its 15th straight home win.

David West had 15 points and seven rebounds and George Hill added 15 points and eight assists to help the Pacers to their fourth straight victory overall and their longest home win streak in 13 years.

Jeff Teague had 24 points and eight assists and Al Horford had 15 points and eight rebounds to

lead the Hawks, who have lost three of their last four.

The Pacers went on a 7-2 run midway through the fourth quarter. Lance Stephenson scored on a layup before Hill hit a 3-pointer with 6:28 left to play to give the Pacers a 100-84 lead, their largest advantage of the game.

Rockets 140, Golden State 109

In Houston, the Rockets tied an NBA record and set a franchise mark with 23 3-pointers in a win over Golden State.

Jeremy Lin scored 28 points, including a career-high five 3-pointers, and Chandler Parsons and James Harden hit four 3s apiece as the Rockets reached a season-high point total. They also tied an NBA record with 14 3-pointers in the first half and had a season-high 35 assists on 46 field goals overall.

Harden added 18 and Parsons scored 16 for Houston. The Rockets put on the shooting display without their best 3-point shooter—Carlos Delfino sat out with a right elbow injury.

Jarrett Jack scored 20 points and David Lee had 18 for the Warriors.

Suns 96, Grizzlies 90

In Memphis, Tennessee, Goran Dragic scored 15 of his 17 points in the fourth quarter to lead Phoenix past Memphis.

Dragic, who had just two points on 1-for-6 shooting through three quarters, was 5 for 6 in the fourth, including converting three three-point plays to help the Suns snap a two-game losing streak.

After the score was tied at 88, Dragic scored six straight points to put the game away.

Marcin Gortat led the Suns with 20 points on 8-for-10 shooting from the field, while Jermaine O'Neal had 14 points. Kendall Marshall added 11 points and Luis Scola finished with 10.

Jerryd Bayless scored a season-high 29 points on 11-for-15 shooting, including 3 of 4 on 3-pointers, to lead the Grizzlies. Zach Randolph had 21 points and 13 rebounds, and Tayshaun Prince scored 11 points.

Fans march with Ravens' parade to packed stadium



BALTIMORE (AP)—Baltimore celebrated with its Super Bowl

champion Ravens on Tuesday, with thousands of fans in purple lining the streets and packing the team's stadium for a celebration.

Fans filled the square in front of City Hall and cheered when the team arrived and when players held the silver Lombardi trophy aloft. The Mayor's Office of Emergency Management estimated that 200,000 people took part in the celebration in Charm City, including at City Hall, along the parade route and

at the stadium.

Coach John Harbaugh thanked the fans for their support, and safety Ed Reed sang the melody of Eddie Money's "Two Tickets to Paradise." Retiring middle linebacker Ray Lewis, the only current player to have started with the team when it came to the city from Cleveland in 1996, told fans the team had fulfilled a promise to go to New Orleans and win.

"The city of Baltimore—I love you for ever and ever and ever," Lewis told fans in front of City Hall.

The players were about an hour late arriving, but fans waited to see them pile into military vehicles and set off on their drive

to the stadium. The city shot off purple and white confetti as the parade started and the Queen song "We Are the Champions" played over a loudspeaker. Quarterback Joe Flacco and several other players rode in their own camouflage-colored military vehicles, while others stood on a float decorated like a football field with a yellow goal post.

Lewis had a position of honor in a military vehicle that brought up the end of the procession. He touched his hand to his heart and gave fans a double thumbs-up as he started on the parade route. Fans followed behind, surrounding the back of the vehicle.

Fans wore every article of

purple clothing imaginable. In addition to team jerseys, people were dressed in purple hats and scarves, purple Mardi Gras beads, purple wigs. One man wore a Ravens flag as a cape, and many women came wearing purple lipstick and eye shadow.

Lewis Neal, 59, who was born and raised in Baltimore, was decked out in a purple tie and vest to purple pants and shoes. He said he went to the parade after the team won its first Super Bowl championship in 2001. This time was smaller, he said, but still special.

"My heart goes out for them," said Lewis, who said he had tears in his eyes Sunday when

the team beat the San Francisco 49ers 34-31.

Nancy Monseaux, 63, a Baltimore resident for nearly four decades, cheered the team on Pratt Street, where fans lined the sidewalk five or more people deep in some places. Monseaux, who held a sign that said "Doubt the Ravens nevermore," said she wanted to come to show her support for the team.

"These boys earned it," she said of the victory, cheering as members of the team passed.

Some fans along the parade route said they also planned to go to the team's M&T Bank Stadium. But the stadium, which usually seats 71,000, reached

capacity around 12:30 p.m., a police spokesman said, and late-arriving fans were turned away.

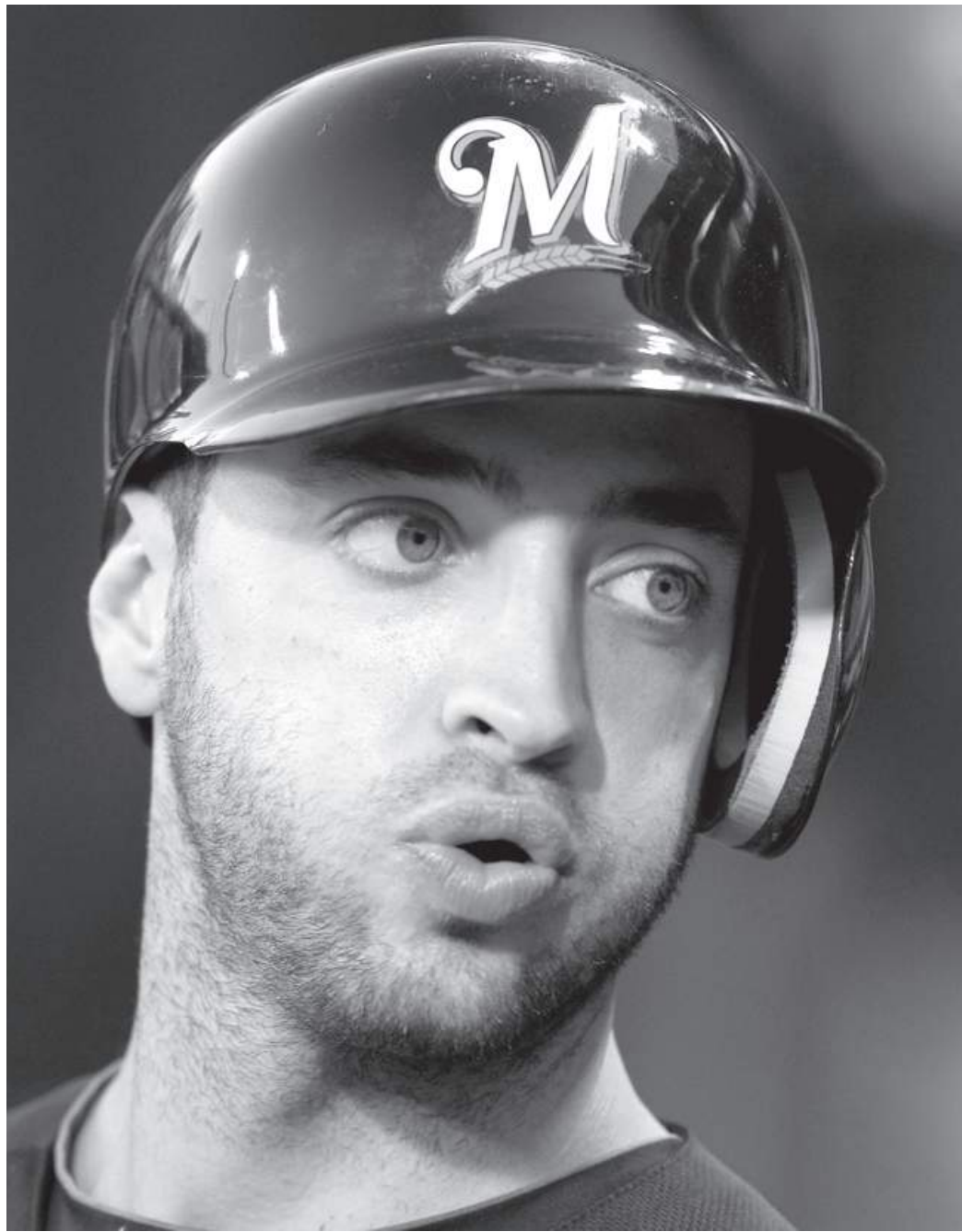
When the team did arrive, they treated fans to a thank-you celebration that lasted just over a half an hour. Lewis emerged from a tunnel onto the field, handed off the Lombardi trophy and did his signature dance, "The Squirrel." He thanked fans for their love of the team and said he wanted to win the Super Bowl to repay Baltimore for everything it's done for him.

"There is no place on this earth that's better than Baltimore," he told the crowd.

Flacco, the Super Bowl's most valuable player, also addressed fans.

"Baltimore, we did it. Super Bowl champs, baby," he said.

Braun says he used Florida clinic owner as consultant



In this Sept. 19, 2012, file photo, Milwaukee Brewers left fielder Ryan Braun stands in the dugout before a baseball game against the Pittsburgh Pirates in Pittsburgh. AP



**N E W
Y O R K**
(A P) —
Milwau-

kee Brewers slugger Ryan Braun said the person who ran the Florida clinic being investigated by Major League Baseball was used only as a consultant on his drug suspension appeal last year.

"I have nothing to hide," Braun said in a statement released by his representatives on Tuesday night.

Earlier in the day, Yahoo Sports reported the 2011 NL MVP's name showed up three times in records of the Biogenesis of America LLC clinic. Yahoo said no specific performance-enhancing drugs were listed next to his name.

The *Miami New Times* recently released clinic documents that purportedly linked Alex Rodriguez, Gio Gonzalez, Melky Cabrera and other players to purchases of banned drugs from the now-closed anti-aging center.

Rodriguez and Cabrera were on the list with Braun that also included New York Yankees catcher Francisco Cervelli and Baltimore Orioles infielder Danny Valencia.

Braun said his name was in the Biogenesis records because

of an issue over payment to Anthony Bosch, who ran the clinic near Miami.

"There was a dispute over compensation for Bosch's work, which is why my lawyer and I are listed under 'moneys owed' and not on any other list," Braun said.

"I have nothing to hide and have never had any other relationship with Bosch," he said. "I will fully cooperate with any inquiry into this matter."

On Tuesday, MLB officials asked the *Miami New Times* for the records the alternative newspaper obtained for its story.

Asked specifically about Braun's name in the documents before the five-time All-Star released his statement, MLB spokesman Pat Courtney said: "Aware of report and are in the midst of an active investigation in South Florida."

Braun tested positive during the 2011 postseason for elevated testosterone levels. He maintained his innocence and his 50-game suspension was overturned during spring training last year when arbitrator Shyam Das ruled in favor of Braun due to chain of custody issues involving the sample.

With that, Braun became the first major leaguer to have a

drug suspension overturned.

"During the course of preparing for my successful appeal last year, my attorneys, who were previously familiar with Tony Bosch, used him as a consultant. More specifically, he answered questions about T/E ratio and possibilities of tampering with samples," Braun said.

The T/E ratio is a comparison of the levels of testosterone to epitestosterone.

Braun led the NL in homers (41), runs (108) and slugging percentage (.595) last season while batting .319 with 112 RBIs and 30 stolen bases. He finished second to San Francisco catcher Buster Posey in MVP balloting.

Cervelli, who spent nearly all of last season in Triple-A, posted a statement on Twitter later Tuesday night.

"Following my foot injury in March 2011, I consulted with a number of experts, including BioGenesis Clinic, for (cont)," Cervelli posted, "(cont) legal ways to aid my rehab and recovery. I purchased supplements that I am certain were not prohibited by Major League Baseball."

An email sent to Valencia's agent was not returned.

Cardinals pitcher Chris Carpenter likely out for '13

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Chris Carpenter, one of the best clutch pitchers in the storied history of the St. Louis Cardinals, may have thrown his final pitch.

General manager John Mozeliak and manager Mike Matheny announced Tuesday that Carpenter almost certainly won't pitch in 2013 and that his star-crossed career is probably over after a recurrence of a nerve injury that cost him most of last season. Carpenter did not attend, and Mozeliak said the emotions for the 37-year-old are still too raw.

Retirement isn't official yet. Carpenter plans to seek further medical evaluation. But Mozeliak seemed resigned to losing him.

"He's leaving the door slightly open, but it's unlikely," Mozeliak said of Carpenter's return.

Carpenter's career numbers don't reflect his value to the team. He is 144-94 with a 3.76 ERA in a career that began in Toronto in 1997. He spent six seasons with the Blue Jays and nine in St. Louis. He won the 2005 NL Cy Young Award, going 21-5 with a 2.83 ERA, and was second in 2009 after going 17-4 with a 2.24 ERA.

More telling are his postseason results, including a 10-4 record and 3.00 ERA in 18 starts. There were the eight innings of three-hit shutout baseball in a Game 3 World Series win over Detroit in 2006, a series the Cardinals won in five games; a

included removal of a rib, and it worked—he pitched three games down the stretch to help St. Louis earn the final NL wild card spot. He beat Washington in the division series but was 0-2 in the NL championship series against eventual World Series winner San Francisco, the velocity and command not up to his normal standard.

"I don't know if I've ever witnessed a better competitor than Chris, and also leader," said Matheny, a former catcher and teammate of Carpenter's before his current role as manager.

Mozeliak agreed.

"When he was healthy he was one of the best," Mozeliak said. "He was blessed with talent but he also worked extremely hard. When I think back over the last 10 to 15 years here in St. Louis he was one of those guys who just helped create the model of success. He left nothing to chance."

Carpenter's contract calls for a \$12.5 million salary this year, of which \$2 million is deferred without interest and is to be paid in \$200,000 installments each July 1 from 2017-26.

As recently as the Cardinals' annual fan gathering in mid-January, Carpenter was saying he was healthy and eager to pitch in 2013. Mozeliak said Carpenter tried throwing from a mound perhaps three times before calling him, emotionally saying he didn't think he could pitch.



In this Oct. 21, 2012, file photo, St. Louis Cardinals' Chris Carpenter wipes his face with a towel in the dugout during the fourth inning of Game 6 of baseball's National League championship series against the San Francisco Giants in San Francisco. AP

1-0 shutout to beat Roy Halladay in Philadelphia in the deciding game of the 2011 NL division series; and the gutty Game 7 World Series-clinching win over Texas on three days' rest in 2011.

His career is all the more remarkable considering the amount of time he spent on the disabled list due to various shoulder, elbow and nerve injuries. He missed most of 2002, all of 2003, most of 2007 and 2008, and then last year's season that was limited to three regular-season starts.

Carpenter phoned Mozeliak on Friday and told him that after trying to throw off a mound, the nerve injury was back, this time including numbness in his right arm, even bruising on his shoulder and hand.

"After speaking with him on the phone you certainly get a sense that he's more concerned about life after baseball," Mozeliak said.

The stunning news spread quickly. Third baseman David Freese tweeted: "Carp. 1 of the best teammates around. Heck of a competitor, impeccable leader. Passion for the game & to win, cant top. (hash)ace."

Carpenter was a clubhouse force, a no-nonsense presence who set an example of grit and toughness. Consider 2012: He was written off as lost for the season after the nerve injury first emerged during spring training.

But in July, Carpenter had radical surgery that

"He felt to some degree he was letting us down," Mozeliak said. "I assured him nothing was further from the truth."

Still, Matheny called the news "a kick in the gut" and the Cardinals have been through this before, too. Adam Wainwright had Tommy John surgery after hurting his elbow in 2011 and missed the entire season.

"There are a lot of young arms ready to contribute and now they're going to get that opportunity," Mozeliak said.

He declined to speculate on whether the team would consider re-signing Kyle Lohse, who was 16-3 with a 2.86 in 211 innings for St. Louis last season but remains unsigned as a free agent.

The Cardinals also have uncertainty about left-hander Jaime Garcia, who was 7-7 with a 3.92 ERA last season but was limited to just 20 starts due to shoulder fatigue. He was lost for the rest of the postseason after injuring his left shoulder in Game 2 against the Nationals.

Wainwright, Jake Westbrook and Lance Lynn are expected to be in the rotation. Younger pitchers Joe Kelly, Trevor Rosenthal and Shelby Miller will compete for a spot.

"As we head into spring now there's certainly a void there, but there's also an opportunity," Matheny said. "We have to have some other guys step up."

8th Annual Meek & Mighty Ocean Swim

PHOTOS BY
ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Mighty top finisher Kensuke Kimura smiles as he is about to complete the five-lap race.



Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel removes his swim cap after completing the one-lap race in the 8th SSC Annual Meek & Mighty Ocean Swim held late last month in the waters off Pacific Islands Club.



A volunteer, in background, takes video footages of Angel Marie Tan's finish.



Angel De Jesus, left, and Miku Tammy struggle to move out of the water.



A Tsunami Saipan volunteer takes photos of Kaito Yanai, front, and Takumi Sugie.



Tim Goodwin, right, is greeted by his daughter Milan as the former gets out of the water.



Meek top finisher Ryuto Yanai watches remaining swimmers complete their races.



Pacific Islands Club's Glenn Policare instructs swimmers heading for their second lap, while one female swimmer gets out of the water to complete her race.



A Saipan Swim Club swimmer gets to play in the water after finishing the race.



Sean Smith celebrates his finish.



**Short-handed
Lakers beat
Nets, 92-83**

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he used Fla
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

Heo gets 1st win of season in NCAA



WWW.MSUEAGLES.COM
Ji Hoon Heo is seen here getting ready at the baseline during an earlier game for Morehead State University in the NCAA Division 1 this season in Kentucky.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former CNMI and Pacific No. 1 tennis player Ji Hoon Heo earned his first victory in the 2013 season of the NCAA Division 1.

Heo, who first played in Division II for Hawaii Pacific University before moving to Morehead State University in Kentucky last fall season, won both his singles and doubles matches to help the Eagles beat University of Alabama-Huntsville last Feb. 4 (Feb. 5 on Saipan) at the EAGLE Center In-



door Courts.

Heo and company had earlier dropped their first two games of the season before snapping their skid this week. Morehead, which plays in the east division of the Ohio Valley Conference, first fell to Louisville on Jan. 18, 0-7, and suffered

See HEO on Page 26

4 teams eye stint in Shirley's caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Defending champion DFS Galleria is among the four teams that initially expressed interest in competing in the 4th Shirley's Coffee Shop Basketball League.

Joining DFS on the list is Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Docomo Pacific, and the host's team, according to league coordinator Irish Pagarao.

The Pete Iguel-led DFS won the 2011 championship in the Shirley's league after routing PSS/McGraw-Hill in the winner-take-all finale, 92-63, at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium. The defending champion also racked up the most awards in the competition with Iguel getting the Finals MVP plum, Gabriel White taking the Best Coach Plum, and Jack Lizama making it to the Mythical Five.

Meanwhile, the opening of the fourth season of the Shirley's caging has been

See 4 TEAMS on Page 26

3 more newcomers in XTERRA Saipan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Three more visiting triathletes will debut in next month's 2013 XTERRA Saipan Championship.

The list includes New Caledonia's David Esposito and the Philippines' Hector Yuzon and Raffy Zamora and they will be joining fellow newcomers Dan Hugo and Bradley Weiss, who are pros from South Africa and Scotland pro Rory Downie.

Among the three latest additions to the XTERRA Saipan's first-timers roster, Esposito has the most impressive resume, having won gold medals in the Pacific Mini Games and having competed in various races in Oceania.

The 39-year-old Frenchman took the gold medal in the men's division of the 2009 Pacific Mini Games in the Cook Islands and then teamed up with Laurent Barra and Erika Ellis in giving New Caledonia another gold medal.

Esposito also competed in the 2009 Dextro Energy Triathlon-ITU World Championship Grand Final in Gold Coast, Australia and finished 20th in his age group. In 2006, he raced in the Canberra ITU Long Distance Triathlon World Championships and was ranked No. 15 in his age group.

Meanwhile, the two Filipino bet participants in the XTERRA World Championship in Maui, Hawaii and also joined the inaugural XTERRA Philippines, which is the first stop of the XTERRA Asian Tour.

Yuzon had his debut in XTERRA World last year and completed the 1.5-kilometer swim, 30.4K bike race, and 9.5K run in 4:46:21. He was the 48th finisher (No. 563 overall) in his age group 30-34. Yuzon was a member of the five-man XTERRA Philippine Team that also includes Philippine celebrities Drew Arellano and Matteo Guidicelli, coach Noy

See 3 MORE on Page 26

Volunteers prep up for XTERRA Saipan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Volunteer work on the island is at its finest this month, as residents prepare for the hosting of the 2013 XTERRA Saipan Championship set for March 9.

Trail clearing jobs along the XTERRA bike and run courses are on-going, meetings have been set, homestays are being arranged, and other details about the off-road triathlon even have been ironed out to make sure of the successful staging of XTERRA World Tour's Crown Jewel.

"Hats off to the volunteers for devoting their time and effort in getting everything ready for XTERRA Saipan. Everyone is doing its share of volunteer work just to keep XTERRA here and give our visiting athletes a good

experience," said Brad Ruzsala, vice president of Taga, Inc., which is the main organizer for XTERRA Saipan as well as Tagaman.

Ruzsala attended XTERRA/Tagaman (Saipan Sportsfest) organization meeting yesterday, joining more than 20 individuals from both the private and public sector, to discuss preparation.

See VOLUNTEERS on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers do clearing jobs along the bike course of XTERRA Saipan at Wireless Ridge last weekend.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Raffy Zamora makes a turn along the bike course in the 2012 Cobra Ironman 70.3 in Mactan Island in Cebu, Philippines.